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IEA Decides on Energy Aid Plan for Russia

OW1304144194 Tokyo KYODO in English 1430 GMT 13 Apr 94

[Text] Kyoto, April 13 KYODO—The International Energy Agency (IEA) decided Wednesday [13 April] to draw up a program by around June to help Russia with energy conservation technology, agency sources said. The decision was made at the agency's governing board meeting held in Kyoto with representatives from 22 countries of the 24 member nations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) attending.

Russia has asked for IEA assistance in the field of energy since last year.

Meeting participants agreed that the agency should draw up a concrete program together with Russia in the form of a document, although the paper will have no legal binding force.

The assistance will include providing energy conservation technology, research and statistics methods regarding energy supply and demand, and technology for developing alternative energy sources, the sources said.

In addition, the participants discussed how IEA member nations will share the financial burden of helping Russia with nuclear power plant operations, which Russia has also requested, the sources said.

They also agreed that the IEA and the OECD will continue to cooperate in the area of technology development for global environmental protection.

The IEA meeting is the first in 16 years Japan has hosted. On Thursday, the Japanese Government and IEA will hold a seminar to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the IEA's inauguration.

Robert Hawke, former Australian prime minister, and Brent Scowcroft, former U.S. presidential assistant, will take part in the seminar which focuses on the IEA's long-term strategy.

Nuclear Industry Forum Closes Conference 15 Apr

OW1504145794 Tokyo KYODO in English 1425 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Text] Hiroshima, April 15 KYODO—The Japan Atomic Industrial Forum ended Friday [15 April] a three-day conference in Hiroshima, the world's first atom-bombed city, with a declaration affirming its opposition to nuclear weapons.

On the final day, delegates debated the development of nuclear energy in the Asian region and the effects of radioactivity.

A declaration issued at the closing affirmed the delegates' opposition to nuclear weapons. It also called for continued efforts by countries involved in dismantling nuclear weapons and the development of research into technology aimed at making the peaceful use of nuclear energy safer.

At a news conference after the conference, Takashi Mukaibo, chairman of the forum that promotes peaceful use of atomic energy, said the group came to Hiroshima "to learn." About 1,500 atomic power specialists from Japan and abroad took part in the 27th annual conference.

Hans Blix, director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), told delegates the IAEA will hold a special meeting on April 21 and 22 in Vienna to discuss the Chernobyl nuclear reactors in Ukraine. Chernobyl was the scene of one of the world's most serious nuclear accidents in 1986.

Antinuclear activists protested the gathering around the conference hall in central Hiroshima.

Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the atomic bombing during the closing days of World War II.

ROC Strives for 'Stronger Role' in Region

OW1804151894 Taipei CNA in English 1344 GMT 18 Apr 94

[By Peter Chen]

[Text] Brisbane, April 18 (CNA)—The Republic of China [ROC] is striving to play a stronger role in the Asia Pacific as its economy becomes more closely enmeshed with the region's economy, the ROC's top economic planner said today.

Speaking at the Asia-Pacific Insight 1994 meeting in Sydney on Monday [18 April], Hsiao Wan-chang, chairman of the Council for Economic Planning and Development (CEPD), said Taiwan is well positioned to expand its already significant role as a contributor to regional economic cooperation and development, especially as a supporter of Asia's developing economies.

"We can serve as an effective gateway for overseas investors who wish to enter Asia's fast-growing markets," he said.

He said Taiwan has four key assets in shaping its future economic role in the Asia-Pacific region—its geographic location, its rapid economic development and highly skilled labor pool, its manufacturing and engineering resources, and its historical and cultural links with its neighbors.

Attending the meeting were business leaders and senior officials from Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea, Thailand, Hong Kong, Mainland China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Vietnam, and Papua New Guinea.

Among them were Singapore's former Prime Minister Li Kuan Yew and Australia's Foreign Minister Gareth Evans.

Hsiao said Taiwan's trade with the Asia-Pacific region totaled US$120 billion in 1993, accounting for 75 percent of its overall trade. About 35 percent of Taiwan's total trade is with South Korea, Japan, Hong Kong and Mainland China, he said.

The ROC has become the largest investor in Vietnam, the second largest in both Malaysia and Mainland China, the third largest in Indonesia, [words indistinct] Thailand and the fifth largest in the Philippines, he said.

ASEAN Officials Prepare First Regional Forum

BK1704122494 Bangkok THE SUNDAY NATION in English 17 Apr 94 p A2

[Text] Senior officials of ASEAN will meet in Phatthaya a week tomorrow to discuss remaining matters concerning the forthcoming first ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in Bangkok.

The senior officials are expected to agree during the three-day meeting on the structure and formalities concerning the Forum as well as agendas for discussion.

They will also discuss preparations for the 27th ASEAN Ministerial Meetings (AMM) to be held for two days immediately prior to the Regional Forum, which is scheduled for July 25.

Should all matters not be decided on during the meeting in Phatthaya, the officials will meet again next month prior to the preparatory meeting set for May 23 and 25 for the ASEAN Post Ministerial Conference (PMC), according to a senior ASEAN official.

The annual PMC meeting, which includes ASEAN states and their seven dialogue countries, will be held on July 26 and 27 following the ARF. At a previous round of ASEAN senior officials' preparatory meetings in March, three issues were proposed for discussion at the Forum.

They were: Asia-Pacific security now and in the future, confidence building measures and preventive diplomacy.

According to the official, Indonesian officials will be asked during the meeting in Phatthaya to elaborate on how to frame the discussion on preventive diplomacy.

There was also a proposal that a group of "eminent persons" or a committee could be set up to follow up on issues being discussed so they could be proposed at the next ARF.

The official added that there could be new proposals concerning how to make the ARF more meaningful. He did not elaborate.

Senior officials at the Phatthaya meeting will also have a working lunch with ASEAN-based Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS) to discuss new ARF input from the academic institution. The first ASEAN-ISIS meeting was held in Singapore last year.

The senior officials however already agreed that the ARF Forum will be attended by foreign ministers from 18 countries comprising the six ASEAN states, seven ASEAN dialogue countries, Vietnam, Laos and Papua New Guinea as ASEAN observers and China and Russia as ASEAN guests. The ministers could each be accompanied in the meeting by either one senior officer or one interpreter.

They also agreed that the Forum should aim first at promoting confidence building and that the topic of discussion should neither be too broad nor too restrictive and the discussion neither too academic nor too light.

The Forum, they agreed, should rather make all participants comfortable enough to speak out. Such an atmosphere in itself will encourage candid discussions that will lead to the realization of the meeting's aspiration for confidence building.

They also agreed in principle to the concept of a UN Arms Register in response to the Philippines' proposal on setting up a Regional Arms Registry as a means to promote confidence.

The Phatthaya meeting is unlikely to further elaborate on such a proposal, however, the same official said.

Concerning the AMM meeting, Burma will be attending as the guest of the host, Thailand, and Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri, as current chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee, will convey this message when he visits Rangoon on Tuesday and Wednesday.

A Thai source yesterday said discussion among ASEAN members about Burma's participation could be open-ended depending on developments inside Burma, despite the initial ASEAN consensus on Rangoon's participation.

Cambodia will be attending the AMM meeting as ASEAN's special guest.

Thailand might call for an ASEAN approach to the current situation in Cambodia, the source said without elaborating.

Japan

Murayama Opposes Proposed Laws on DPRK Issue

OW1904041394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0324 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—The head of the largest party in the ruling coalition reiterated opposition Tuesdayto proposed legislation to deal with emergencies that could stem from North Korea's refusal to fully open its nuclear facilities for inspection.

"We have to make utmost efforts within the constraints of the pacifist Constitution," said Tomiichi Murayama, chairman of the Social Democratic Party, who spoke to reporters at a Tokyo hotel.

Murayama's remarks followed disagreement Monday during talks among representatives of the coalition parties over Japan's stance toward North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons development program.

During the talks, Ichiro Ozawa, secretary general of core coalition party Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], proposed establishing domestic legislation in preparation for a possible naval blockade of North Korea.

Ozawa reportedly told the meeting, "Unless Japan prepares its domestic laws beforehand for a quick response to the situation such as a naval blockade, Japan would not be able to do anything at a time of contingency."

The SDP opposed the legislation, saying it would contravene Japan's longtime constitutional interpretation that it is not allowed to commit its military for collective military action, even to defend its security.

Murayama also told reporters, "It is a prerequisite to make utmost efforts through negotiations (with North Korea) to prevent such a contingency from breaking out."

Meanwhile, Murayama called on other coalition partners to speed up the process of naming a successor to outgoing Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

"We have to launch a new government as quickly as possible and we must conduct preparations to call a parliamentary election to name the new head of government tomorrow," he said.

Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata, who is head of Shinseito, has emerged as the most likely replacement for Hosokawa, who announced on April 8 that he will step down over an alleged financial scandal and delays in Diet deliberations on the fiscal 1994 budget.

Red Army Members in DPRK View Tokyo Policy

OW1704023394 Tokyo KYODO in English 0221 GMT 17 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 17 KYODO—Japan Red Army members living in Pyongyang since their 1970 hijacking of a Japan Airlines (JAL) airliner have slammed Tokyo's policies toward North Korea's suspected nuclear arms development program.

In a letter obtained Saturday [16 April] by KYODO NEWS SERVICE, the Red Army members remarked, "As a neighboring nation, Japan should not be conspiring with the United States but making efforts for dialogue and peace (with North Korea)."

The letter indicated that a declaration with the same content was sent to an influential member of the government's ruling coalition.

The U.S., along with Seoul and Tokyo, has been urging Pyongyang to comply with international nuclear safeguards accords and permit inspections of its nuclear facilities suspected of being part of an arms development program.

The U.S. has lobbied for a U.N. resolution calling for North Korea's compliance with the inspections, but at China's urging last month, the U.N. Security Council adopted a nonbinding presidential statement asking Pyongyang to be more open with its program.

With discussion about possibly imposing economic sanctions on North Korea under way in the United Nations, Japanese national security authorities suggested the letter was part of a propaganda campaign against Japan in connection with last Friday's 82nd birthday of North Korean leader Kim Il-song.

In 1970, nine Japan Red Army members commandeered a JAL Boeing 727, known as "Yodo," to Pyongyang. One of the hijackers has since died in North Korea and another was arrested in 1988 while trying to return to Japan.

'News Analysis' Views World Trade Organization

OW1604001094 Tokyo KYODO in English 2353 GMT 15 Apr 94

["News analysis" by Keiji Urakami]

[Text] Tokyo, April 16 KYODO—A multilateral trade body that will replace the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is expected to exercise more enforcing power as a policeman to crack down on global protectionism.

The World Trade Organization (WTO) will be formed next January at the earliest as a new multilateral trade framework in place of the 46-year-old GATT. The WTO was adopted Friday [15 April] by more than 120 GATT countries during their Marrakech ministerial conference.

When dispute settlement efforts between two countries go out of control, the WTO will step in, seeking a solution basically on the basis of consensus, the same dispute settlement mechanism as employed under GATT.

But procedures used by the WTO provide stronger and clearer rules for a wide range of trade areas that will newly include services and intellectual property rights in line with the just-signed final accord of the Uruguay Round of the multilateral trade talks.

The biggest difference with the system under GATT is that the WTO rules will be enforced by a judicial mechanism that will no longer allow countries to block findings against them.

Under the so-called "negative consensus system," findings prepared by a dispute settlement panel will be automatically formalized unless there is a unanimous consensus to reject them, meaning that only a single vote in favor of a finding is needed for the WTO to adopt it.

The new mechanism is designed to answer increasing frustrations by trading countries about the GATT system in which one member can deny a panel recommendation.

Under the new system, countries which fail to comply with panel recommendations will face trade sanctions under strict time limits.

The new trade framework's strong spirit against global protectionism is well reflected in part of the Marrakech Declaration that confirmed a "determination to resist protectionist pressures of all kinds."

The United States has officially supported the new dispute settlement mechanism under the WTO, with U.S. Trade Representative Mickey Kantor recently saying, "the new system... will work and it will work fast."

But countries like Japan, which has often come under the threat of trade sanctions, want the mechanism to work as a deterrent against Washington's inclination to resort to unilateral and retaliatory trade measures such as the recently reinstated "Super 301" trade clause.

Ministers from Malaysia, India, Thailand and other countries joined Japan's stance in ministerial speeches made during the four- day Marrakech conference that began Tuesday.

Ministers from the countries blasted a growing unilateral approach among superpowers as a tool to settle trade rows, describing the stance as destabilizing the world trade order.

A barrage of such criticism was made in an apparent reference to Washington, which has appeared to be threatening to use retaliatory weapons in its intellectual property trade with Asian countries.

Although supporting the overall mechanism under the WTO, Kantor said action under Washington's domestic trade provisions such as Section 301 of the U.S. Trade Act would not be affected by the WTO rules.

JCP Book Exposes Nosaka's Link With KGB

OW1604095994 Tokyo KYODO in English 0917 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 16 KYODO—Sanzo Nosaka, the former leader of the Japanese Communist Party (JCP), acted as a spy for the former Soviet Union's intelligence agency ever since his return from Moscow in 1946, according to a book released Saturday [16 April] by the JCP.

Nosaka, who served as the party's first secretary and then Central Committee chairman between 1955 and 1982, died last November after being expelled from the party in 1992 for his involvement in a spy scandal.

The book, titled "70 Years of the Japanese Communist Party," depicts major events in the party's history since its foundation in 1922.

The book says, "Nosaka had been working as a spy affiliated with the Soviet intelligence agency ever since he returned to Japan in January 1946."

It also accuses former Soviet leader Joseph Stalin of having tried to control the JCP by taking advantage of Nosaka, who had climbed up the party echelons to gain its leadership.

"Nosaka showed his loyalty to Stalin by helping him interfere with the Japanese Communist Party due to Nosaka's tie with the Soviet intelligence agency," the book says.

It accuses Nosaka of falsely reporting to the Soviet authorities his prewar colleague Kenzo Yamamoto, another JCP member, as a Western spy, resulting in the 1939 execution by shooting of Yamamoto.

In 1931, Nosaka fled the repression of the prewar Japanese Government to the Soviet Union.

Yamamoto also fled to the Soviet Union in 1928 and continued his political activities in Moscow until 1939, when Nosaka wrote a letter to the Soviet authorities identifying him as a spy.

The truth surrounding Yamamoto's death was exposed only in August 1992, when a Japanese news magazine reported Nosaka's letter which had been kept at the Soviet Communist Party archives in Moscow.

The JCP subsequently sent an investigative mission to Moscow and stripped him of his membership.

Keidanren Urges Tokyo To Promote Deregulation

OW1804104894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1027 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—The powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) called on the government on Monday [18 April] to promote deregulation, including phased abolition of the law regulating the opening of large-scale retail stores.

The federation also sought an easing of regulations on rice and liquor sales and railway fares.

The government maintains tight controls on licensing rice retailers.

The federation expressed hope that its appeal will be reflected in a deregulation program to be formulated by the government by the end of fiscal 1994.

It said deregulation in the retail business will help narrow the price gap between domestic and imported goods.

The federation said passenger and freight fares should be decontrolled while the existing regulation on shipbuilding should also be reviewed to allow newcomers to enter the coastal shipping market.

Hata Declines To Express Intentions 17 Apr

OW1704103294 Tokyo KYODO in English 1007 GMT 17 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 17 KYODO—Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata, a front-runner to succeed outgoing Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, said Sunday [17 April] that he will formally express his decision after ruling coalition partners fine-tune their policies and pick him to run in the race for premier.

Hata, head of the coalition's core party Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), made the remarks to reporters on a plane while returning to Japan from Marrakech, Morocco.

Hata was in Morocco to attend a four-day ministerial meeting of General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) member nations to sign the final agreement of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks.

Regarding prospects that the coalition parties will endorse him as a replacement to Hosokawa, Hata, who is also deputy premier, declined to directly express any intention to be a candidate, only saying, "I will hear the views of other (coalition) partners...I'm not in a position to speak about specific matters."

On changing the framework of the current coalition, Hata said, "There are many moves within the (primary opposition) Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). A big move has not yet emerged. It will get clearer from tomorrow on what kind of framework (we) will establish."

The remark was apparently in reference to former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, an LDP veteran, who is eyeing forming ties with coalition parties, possibly Shinseito and Komeito, the alliance's other key party, to achieve his ambition of succeeding Hosokawa, political sources said.

The present seven-party coalition is made up of parties ranging from socialists to conservatives.

"In order to employ politics with responsibility, it is desirable that a force or a framework be formed capable of rivaling the LDP," Hata said.

Hata hinted at a possible tie-up with Watanabe, who has expressed his readiness to run for the upcoming Diet vote for the premiership to replace Hosokawa. Hosokawa announced his resignation on April 8 over questions regarding his personal finances.

Watanabe said Sunday he will leave the party to run in the prime ministerial election.

Hata told reporters at Tokyo's Haneda airport, "I would like to respect his determination. He is fit to be leader."

Five ruling coalition parties Monday are expected to fine-tune agreement on such key policies as tax reform and their stance on North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons development program.

The meeting will precede coalition leaders' talks on cementing the accords and then picking a successor to Hosokawa.

Table of Diet Strengths Following Defections

OW1804053794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0527 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 18 KYODO—The following is a table of parliamentary strength following the establishment of a new party by five defectors from the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) on Monday [18 April].

House of Representatives	Party	House of Councillors
214	LDP	95
74	SDP	71
60	Shinseito	—
52	Komeito	24
40	Kaikaku (Reform)	—
19	DSP/Shinto Club	—
15	JCP	11
15	Sakigake/JNP	—
5	Kaikaku No Kai	—
5	New Party Mirai	—
—	Shin Ryokufukai	37
—	Niin Club	5
10	Independents	9
2	Vacancies	0
311	total	252

Hata Urges 'Minimal' Changes in New Cabinet

OW1904000994 Tokyo KYODO in English 2326 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata, who is certain to become Japan's next prime minister, said Monday [18 April] that cabinet changes must be minimal after the establishment of a new government.

Hata, 58, head of key coalition party Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], told reporters late Monday night, "I think it's difficult to replace many cabinet members who worked out the fiscal 1994 budget if the present coalition agrees to establish a new government."

Hata, who is also deputy prime minister in the cabinet of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, said the new government must be a full- fledged one and not a provisional government, because Japan needs to meet expectations from the rest of the world.

On Monday, Hata emerged as the most probable successor to Hosokawa after veteran conservative politician Michio Watanabe indicated to have second thoughts about his plan to leave the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and seek coalition backing to run in a Diet election for the premiership.

Watanabe, who declared Sunday that he will quit the LDP, met LDP President Yohei Kono on Monday and conveyed his desire to run for the premiership.

But Watanabe told reporters later that he has found major differences with coalition parties over security policies, indicating that he was having second thoughts about his bid for premiership.

Kono and Watanabe are scheduled to hold another round of talks Tuesday, LDP officials said.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the House of Representatives steering committee said Monday he wants to convene a plenary session Wednesday or Thursday for a vote on the premiership.

Keiwa Okuda told reporters that the lower house will convene the vote-taking plenary session as soon as the heads of the coalition parties pick the coalition's nominee for the next prime minister.

Representatives of the coalition parties are scheduled to resume discussions Tuesday on policies for a new cabinet.

In Monday's two rounds of talks, they failed to reach agreement on two issues of immediate concern, Japan's stance toward North Korea's suspected nuclear weapons development program and tax system reform.

The forum comprised representatives at the secretaries general level of the Social Democratic Party (SDP), Shinseito, Komeito [Clean Government Party], Japan New Party (JNP), Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), Democratic Reform Party and Kaikaku No Kai [Reform Party].

New party Sakigake [Harbinger], which declared Friday that it will not take posts in a new government, stayed away from the session.

The coalition executives confirmed Monday that the ruling parties will stick to a policy accord reached before the formation of the Hosokawa administration last August, said SDP Secretary General Wataru Kubo, chairman of the forum.

They also shared the view that early Diet approval of the overdue 73.08 trillion yen budget for fiscal 1994 is the top priority for the next government and that the new administration should formulate a budget for fiscal 1995 featuring spending for improving living standards, Kubo told a news conference.

On basic policies, the coalition representatives ironed out differences on such key issues as political reform, economic reform mainly through deregulation, Japan-U.S. ties and administrative reform and decentralization, he said.

Hosokawa, who declared on April 8 that he is resigning as prime minister, will stay in office until the Diet picks a new prime minister.

Coalition Parties 'Close' to Accord on Policy

OW1904054694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0521 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Representatives of the ruling coalition parties are close Tuesday [19 April] to forging agreement on key policies such as national security prior to picking a successor to outgoing Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

The representatives, who resumed discussion on Tuesday morning, are expected to reach agreement during the day if they can hammer out differences on two issues of immediate concern, Japan's stand on North Korea's suspected nuclear development program and tax system rehabilitation, coalition sources said.

The two issues have blocked the coalition from cementing ties on policies for a new government to replace the administration of Hosokawa, who declared his resignation April 8 over scandals involving his finances.

Clearing these obstacles could lead to a meeting as early as Tuesday of coalition party leaders, who will formally sign into accords key policy coordination and then select Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata as their candidate in the prime ministerial election in the Diet, the sources said.

On Monday, Hata emerged as the most probable successor to Hosokawa after veteran conservative politician Michio Watanabe indicated second thoughts about his plan to leave the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and seek coalition backing to run in the Diet election for the premiership.

Yuichi Ichikawa, secretary general of Komeito [Clean Government Party], the coalition's key party, told reporters after the representatives' session went into recess that they agreed on all policies but tax reform.

Regarding the North Korean nuclear issue, the alliance partners agreed that Japan will abide by the United Nations, prepare for emergency under the framework of the Constitution and cooperate with the United States and South Korea, the sources said.

Wataru Kubo, secretary general of the leading coalition the Social Democratic Party (SDP) [as received], told reporters that if the representatives forge an agreement, a meeting of government leaders will be held to confirm the agreement and then party chiefs will discuss picking a prime ministerial candidate and forming a new cabinet after confirming the policy accords.

The session will resume at 3:00 P.M., coalition officials said.

The representatives are made up of persons at secretaries general level of the SDP, Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), Komeito, the Japan New Party (JNP), the Social Democratic Party (DSP), the Democratic Reform Party and Kaikaku No Kai [Reform Party].

New party Sakigake [Harbinger], which declared Friday that it will not take a post in the new cabinet, stayed away from the session.

Keiwa Okuda, chairman of the House of Representatives Steering Committee, meanwhile, said Monday he wants to convene a plenary session Wednesday or Thursday for a vote on the premiership.

He told reporters that the lower house will hold the vote-taking plenary session as soon as the heads of the coalition parties pick their official nominee for the next prime minister.

Hata said Monday that cabinet changes must be minimal after the establishment of a new government.

Hata, 58, head of Shinseito, the coalition's core party, told reporters late Monday night, "I think it's difficult to replace many of the cabinet members who worked out the fiscal 1994 budget if the present coalition agrees to establish a new government."

Hata, who is also deputy prime minister, said the new government must be a full-fledged rather than provisional government because Japan needs to meet the expectations of the rest of the world.

Fail To Reach Accord on Platform

OW1904105494 Tokyo KYODO in English 1047 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Representatives of the ruling coalition parties failed to agree on a policy platform Tuesday [19 April] for forming a new government to replace the cabinet of outgoing Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

The representatives resumed discussions on Tuesday morning to hammer out differences on two issues of immediate concern—Japan's stance on North Korea's suspected nuclear arms development program and tax system reform—before nominating a candidate for the premiership, party officials said.

They reached an accord on the North Korean nuclear issue but failed to narrow differences over tax reform, the officials said.

It now seems that Deputy Prime Minister and concurrently Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata is a virtual certainty to be elected the next prime minister. Michio Watanabe, an influential figure in the opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), formally gave up his notion Tuesday to leave the party in a bid to seek the premiership, hoping to gain the support of the coalition.

Watanabe, 70, conveyed his decision in a third meeting with LDP President Yohei Kono, who has himself vowed to run in a Diet election to select a successor to Hosokawa, 56, who abruptly announced his resignation on April 8 on account of his financial improprieties.

The coalition representatives will resume talks Wednesday and the selection of Hata as a prime ministerial candidate by the coalition chiefs was postponed to as early as Wednesday, they said.

As a result, a Diet election to nominate Hosokawa's successor will take place as early as Thursday, parliamentary sources said.

Hata said Monday cabinet changes must be minimal after the establishment of a new government.

On the North Korean nuclear problem, the representatives agreed Japan should be prepared under the framework of the Constitution for an emergency situation.

The agreement reached said Japan would adhere to the policies of the United Nations, and "the government should be prepared under the framework of the Constitution for an emergency situation."

It also said Japan should cooperate closely with the United States and South Korea.

Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], which is led by Hata, has called for a tougher stance against North Korea and urged a revision of current laws, if necessary, to implement possible economic sanctions against North Korea.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP), the largest party in the seven-party coalition, has voiced its opposition to sanctions. Japan's Constitution renounces the use of force to settle international disputes.

As for tax reform, Shinseito Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa, the chief strategist in the eight-month-old coalition, proposed a sweeping tax reform centered on an indirect tax hike.

SDP Secretary General Wataru Kubo rejected the proposal, party officials said. The SDP has opposed the current 3 percent consumption tax on almost all goods and services.

Hosokawa was forced to withdraw his plan in early February to introduce a fresh 7 percent "national welfare tax" to replace the consumption tax after facing stiff opposition from the SDP, which threatened to withdraw from the coalition.

The representatives were from the level of secretary general of the SDP, Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party), Komeito, the Japan New Party (JNP), the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), the Democratic Reform Party, a small parliamentary group in the House of Councillors, and Kaikaku no Kai (Reform Society), a small parliamentary group of LDP defectors in the House of Representatives.

New party Sakigake (Harbinger), a small component in the coalition, which declared Friday that it will not take a post in the new cabinet because of disappointment over the issue of picking a successor to Hosokawa, did not attend the session.

Sakigake led by Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura has said it will support the candidate agreed upon by the coalition.

LDP's Watanabe Drops Attempt To Quit Party

OW1904075294 Tokyo KYODO in English 0739 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Michio Watanabe, former foreign minister of the main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), said Tuesday he has decided not to leave the party to be a prime ministerial candidate in an election to choose a successor to outgoing Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

Watanabe, 70, conveyed his decision in a third meeting with LDP President Yohei Kono, who has himself vowed to run in a Diet election to select a successor to Hosokawa, 56.

Hosokawa announced his resignation on April 8 over a financial scandal and a Diet stalemate.

Watanabe made the decision against a backdrop of ruling coalition partners coming close to agreeing on key policies such as national security and tax system rehabilitation, and picking Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata, head of the alliance's core party Shinseito (Japan Renewal Party) as its candidate for prime minister, political sources said.

Watanabe's change of heart over quitting the LDP paved the way for the party to field Kono as its official candidate for the premiership election, party sources said.

Kono met with Watanabe on Friday and Monday hoping to persuade him not to run in the premiership race to keep party unity but the efforts proved fruitless then.

Watanabe, an LDP veteran who has held various ministerial posts under LDP governments, declared Sunday he will quit the party to be a candidate for the election, saying a cabinet capable of rescuing the country from the current difficult situation should be formed.

As a crack grew among coalition parties over the process of picking a successor to Hosokawa, Shinseito and Komeito, the coalition's other key party, briefly considered Watanabe to be new leader of a post-Hosokawa coalition.

The LDP's 38-year-long grip on power ended last summer as seven parties ranging from socialists to conservatives formed the current coalition following the July general elections, in which the LDP failed to retain a majority.

Watanabe told reporters after the face-to-face meeting with Kono that he will not help the coalition and will remain in the LDP to promote reform.

Watanabe also said that he will vote for Kono in the prime ministerial election in the Diet.

LDP Secretary General Yoshiro Mori, meanwhile, told reporters that Watanabe decided not to leave but to remain in the party because the coalition has not yet forged agreement on crucial policies such as national security and its stand on North Korea's suspected nuclear arms development project.

Diet balloting for a new prime minister is likely to take place on Thursday [21 April] or after, parliamentary sources said.

Twelfth LDP Member Leaves Party 19 Apr

OW1904123894 Tokyo KYODO in English 1224 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Kenzo Yoneda, a House of Representatives member of the main opposition Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), quit the party Tuesday [19 April] making him the 12th defector from the LDP since last Friday.

Yoneda, who belonged to the faction led by former Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, said he "cannot act freely inside the faction."

Yoneda said he plans to team up with a group of five LDP defectors who quit the party Monday.

The five defectors backed Watanabe in his bid for the premiership. Watanabe formally gave up the bid Tuesday.

Another five LDP lower house legislators quit the party last Friday and formed a new party called New Party Mirai (Future) on Monday.

Another LDP lower house member, Kenji Kosaka, left the party Monday.

Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party], the coalition's core party formed by LDP defectors last summer and led by Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata, agreed in an executive meeting Tuesday to the entry of Kosaka, independent lower house member Shigeru Ishiba and House of Councillors member Hiroko Hayashi, a former LDP member, party officials said.

Hata, also deputy prime minister, is regarded as a most likely successor to Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa who has announced he is resigning to take responsibility for his controversial personal finance deals.

The LDP had been in power for 38 years until last August when it was ousted by Hosokawa's coalition after a general election the previous month.

Probable Final Cabinet Meeting Held 19 Apr

OW1904050794 Tokyo KYODO in English 0452 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Justice Minister Akira Mikazuki on Tuesday [19 April] described as "very ironic" the money scandal-induced resignation of Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa, who has championed the cause of political reform.

Mikazuki made the comment at a news conference after 20 cabinet ministers wrapped up a meeting that is expected to be their last get-together under the short-lived Hosokawa administration prior to the imminent selection of a new prime minister.

Mikazuki said Hosokawa's fall from grace is due to mounting parliamentary criticism over Hosokawa's "money scandal," in which Hosokawa was blasted by the opposition for receiving 100 million yen as an unreported political donation from a mob-linked trucking group.

"It is a very ironic thing" that Hosokawa, who had swept to power on the strength of his public image as an anti-graft crusader, was forced to quit over a string of money scandals, the justice minister said.

However, Mikazuki, who is expected to retain his justice post under a new coalition government, vowed to bring to a successful conclusion the ongoing investigation into a spate of bribery scandals involving the nation's top construction firms and politicians.

"My mandate is to crack down on money-related political corruption on the basis of laws and evidence, namely to settle the general contractors' bribery scandals in a manner that could win public understanding," he said.

Former Construction Minister Kishiro Nakamura is under indictment on a charge of accepting a bribe in exchange for using his influence to deter the Fair Trade Commission from filing a criminal accusation against an alleged bid-rigger.

Meanwhile, Chief Cabinet Secretary Masayoshi Takemura encouraged the ruling coalition to wage a successful "restart" on the basis of "reflections" over some blunders committed over the past eight months.

He criticized some political forces in the coalition for pushing a proposal to amalgamate all coalition parties into a unified large party or parliamentary group to win an upcoming general election "with an eye to single-seat constituencies."

"Momentum to keep the unity of the coalition parties had been in place until the (common) goal of accomplishing political reform was attained," he said at a news conference.

Takemura noted that such momentum dissipated quickly as "momentum to disintegrate the coalition rapidly came to the surface" following the enactment of the political reform bills.

Posts and Telecommunications Minister Takenori Kanzaki told a separate news conference the Social Democratic Party is chiefly responsible for the squabbles that provisionally threatened to blow up the unity of the coalition.

"The solidarity of coalition parties was undercut as the Social Democratic Party started a race without any training and became short of breath midway," Kanzaki, of Komeito [Clean Government Party], said.

The minister was apparently referring to gaps in the coalition between the socialist-led camp and the Shinseito [Japan Renewal Party]-led conservative camp over such key policies as tax system reform and Japan's stand on the proposed economic sanctions on Pyongyang over its suspected nuclear development program.

Nikkeiren Chief on Political Stability Return

OW1904091694 Tokyo KYODO in English 0911 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—An influential business leader expressed hope Tuesday [19 April] that political stability will be restored with the likely selection of Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata as successor to departing Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa.

Takeshi Nagano, president of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations (Nikkeiren), was commenting on news reports the ruling coalition is expected to choose Hata as Hosokawa's successor.

The new administration is expected to pursue the line followed by the Hosokawa government, and its foundations will be more stable than present ones, he said.

The government will do its utmost to enact the 1994 fiscal budget, up for parliamentary approval, as soon as possible, Nagano said.

He said the yen's appreciation has hampered economic recovery, and its value should be lowered to a level matching its purchasing power to help ease the impact on domestic industry.

There are bright signs of recovery but they have yet to cover all industries, he said.

Mieno Views Trade Surplus, Economy Measures

OW1904084594 Tokyo KYODO in English 0821 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—Additional macroeconomic measures will not help Japan curb its huge trade surplus and may even lead to inflation and overheating of an economy already poised to recover, Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said Tuesday.

"The supportive efforts of the monetary and fiscal policies taken so far are gradually putting in place a foundation for economic recovery," Mieno said during a speech at a luncheon sponsored by the Foreign Correspondents' Club of Japan.

With the economic decline coming to a halt, he said the most important thing now is to "carefully monitor" those measures and flatly reject any further cuts in the official discount rate. "I'm not thinking of reducing the discount rate."

Noting that the current-account surplus "also reflects the underlying trend of excess savings," Mieno said, "if we neglect this and adopt an over-ambitious macroeconomic policy to rectify the external imbalances, this may well result in inflation and overheated economic activity."

In this respect, the central bank head emphasized the measures included in Japan's March market-opening package, saying "appropriate macroeconomic policy measures, improvement of market access, deregulation and consolidation of sound infrastructure would contribute to diminishing the imbalances."

Meanwhile, Mieno said he is not trying to justify Japan's trade gap, apparently referring to mounting U.S. pressure on Japan to take fresh and bolder actions ahead of Sunday's meeting in Washington of finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of Seven (G-7) nations.

Mieno said Japan is doing its best on macroeconomic measures although they have not yet fully materialized to put the economy on a "well-balanced" recovery path.

"However, it is expected to come about in the near future, and in the process, the current-account surplus should decrease," he added.

Analyzing the historical trend of trade surpluses moving from developed to developing nations, Mieno said it is natural in economics and noted that the issue has become too politically sensitive.

Expressing regrets over the still deep-rooted view that trade surpluses are a virtue and trade deficits a vice, Mieno said, "an international transaction is not a zero-sum game...rather it should be recognized as a plus-sum game."

Under the current global trend, he cited the "East Asian miracle," the shifting of high development to East Asian nations from Japan.

In fact, Japan's merchandise trade surplus for fiscal 1993 released Monday showed that its gap with other Asian nations topped that with the U.S. for the first time on record.

Mieno reiterated that the "decline in economic activity has come to a halt" with some improvements seen led by consumption and business sentiment which was nothing but pessimistic in the latter half of last year regaining some equanimity.

He painted a brighter picture than his recent comments by saying that conditions for inventory adjustments to improve are "gradually falling into place" and that write-offs of banks' nonperforming loans are set to peak and are manageable.

Mieno gave high credits to a recent positive stance by financial institutions to clear bad loans, noting that completion is already in sight at "money center banks" and increases in fresh bad loans are slowing.

Banks are taking positive steps to make sound lending, he said, and noted the U.S. experience suggests that banks' attitudes change when a clear outlook for write-offs is obtained.

Mieno remained cautious, however, and said, "we still need to analyze some forthcoming economic indicators before reaching a definite conclusion."

He also repeated "we must still bear in mind the various future possibilities" of downward pressures, citing ongoing corporate restructuring, particularly in face of competition from Asian nations, triggered by the yen's appreciation.

He also cited persistent inventory adjustments and "still midway" overall write-offs of nonperforming loans by financial institutions.

Regarding questions by reporters on currency rates, he declined to comment, only mentioning the G-7 accord "to cooperate to keep stable exchange rates reflecting economic fundamentals."

On Japan's political turmoil, Mieno said political certainty is necessary for economic stability, and called for a settlement as early as possible.

But he said the current "political vacuum" is unlikely to drag down the economy with sufficient public works being carried over from February's 15.25 trillion yen stimulus package.

Finance Minister Discusses Economic Issues

OW1904030194 Tokyo KYODO in English 0223 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 KYODO—The recent uptrend in long-term interest rates will top the agenda at a spate of international meetings later this month in Washington, Finance Minister Hirohisa Fujii said Tuesday.

Fujii, speaking at a regular news conference after a morning cabinet meeting, declined to comment on the overnight tightening of U.S. credit policy, however.

Finance ministers and central bankers from the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrialized nations are slated to meet Sunday in Washington for twice-yearly gatherings through Tuesday of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

"I presume interest rates will become one of the major issues," Fujii said, noting that sustainable growth without inflation is what G-7 nations want to attain.

Fujii acknowledged there were various views concerning the tighter U.S. credit stance, such as increasing hopes for an economic recovery and spreading fears of inflation.

But he said, "I shouldn't be commenting on another nation's credit policy."

The U.S. Federal Reserve Board announced overnight a slight tightening of its credit policy, lifting the target rate for the federal funds rate by a quarter of a percentage point.

The third tightening since the Fed changed its credit stance for the first time in five years in February contrasts with Germany's move last week to cut its key rates to allow other European nations to follow suit.

The U.S. credit stance has sent long-term market rates sharply higher, exporting the uptrend to other G-7 nations.

With a credit policy gap surfacing between the U.S., which is on the road to recovery, and Japan and some European nations which are still struggling with sluggish economies, coordination is expected to become a tough issue for the G-7 meeting.

Concerning Japan's huge trade surplus that is certain to be another major topic, Fujii declined to suggest remedies, saying it depends on the coming new cabinet.

Japan is set to choose a new prime minister, with the most likely candidate being Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Tsutomu Hata, to succeed Prime Minister Morihiro Hosokawa who offered to resign earlier this month.

Fujii said he does not know whether Japan will be represented at the Washington meetings by its finance minister in view of the uncertain political situation and the expected start of Diet debate on the fiscal 1994 budget as soon as a new cabinet is formed.

Referring to the fiscal 1993 trade surplus released Monday, Fujii said exports are decreasing and imports are increasing in terms of volume. The trend shows the effectiveness of the Trade Ministry's measures, he said.

Japan's trade surplus for the year ended March 31 hit a record high for the second year in a row, reaching 121.99 billion dollars, up 10.0 percent from the year before.

Fujii said Japan will continue taking action to boost domestic demand and deregulatory steps to facilitate market access as included in the February stimulus package and the March market-opening plan.

North Korea

Kim Il-song Calls on U.S. To Resume Talks

OW1804142294 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1024 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Announcer-read report over video on DPRK President Kim Il-song's written reply to NHK inquiries; and interview with DPRK Major General Kim Yong-chol by "Western news media" on 18 April—place not given; Major General Kim speaks in Korean, with Japanese subtitles; translated from the Japanese; from "NHK News 7" program]

[Text] Today, North Korean President Kim Il-song provided written answers to questions from NHK. In the written response, President Kim said the nuclear issue will be settled if the United States abides by the agreement between the two countries. In this way, he called on the United States again to unconditionally reopen high-level DPRK-U.S. talks. [Begin report from Pyongyang by Toshiro Kishi] [video shows still photos of Kim Il-song] President Kim said as follows: The United States is applying pressure on us by wrongly accusing North Korea, who has never had nuclear weapons and who even accepted inspections by the international organization. The United States also deployed nuclear weapons in the South and is intimidating North Korea with nuclear threat. It is the United States who has been fueling suspicion about North Korea developing nuclear weapons. Therefore, the nuclear issue on the Korean

Peninsula can only be settled through direct talks between North Korea and the United States.

The nuclear issue on the Korean Peninsula can be settled smoothly if both North Korea and the United States observe and carry out the principles clearly shown in the joint statement between the two countries. We only hope that the United States will sincerely abide by these principles together with us. Of late, Japan is strengthening its policy of treating the DPRK as an enemy nation by taking advantage of the anti-DPRK racket [sawagi], in which the United States claims that North Korea is developing nuclear weapons. In order to improve and formalize the relations between the DPRK and Japan, the Japanese Government should stop considering North Korea as an enemy and abandon its anti-DPRK stance. Prospects for improving relations between North Korea and Japan will emerge only when the Japanese Government actually changes its policies toward the DPRK. [end recording]

In this connection, Major General Kim Yong-chol of the North Korean Defense Department held an interview today [18 April] with Western news media, including NHK, and said as follows: [Begin Kim Yong-chol recording] [video shows General Kim in military uniform] The United States has not made it clear whether or not nuclear weapons are still deployed in South Korea. This suggests that nuclear arms have not been removed from South Korea. I believe that nuclear weapons in South Korea can be used at any moment. A U.S. aircraft carrier armed with more than 50 nuclear warheads has made a port call at Yokosuka in Japan. These factors represent a nuclear threat against North Korea. [end Kim Yong-chol recording]

[Begin Kishi recording] As you have just heard, North Korea is saying they cannot believe the United States has taken away nuclear warheads from South Korea. As for the nuclear issue, it is inevitable that the UNSC will discuss early next month the possibility of imposing economic sanctions against North Korea if North Korea does not accept additional inspections by the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency]. Because of this, attention is focused on how North Korea will act next. As far as the written response President Kim Il-song sent to NHK today, and comments by authorities concerned, it is almost impossible to imagine that North Korea will unconditionally accept further nuclear inspection.

As a condition of returning to the nuclear nonproliferation treaty issue, it has been disclosed that North Korea is calling for removal of the U.S. nuclear umbrella on Japan and the ROK. Because of this, we can say it has become difficult for the United States to seek a compromise on further nuclear inspections by resuming dialogue with North Korea for the time being. Therefore, it seems difficult to settle the North Korean nuclear issue at a stroke before the UNSC holds its meeting early next month. [end recording]

Patriot Deployment, Perry's ROK Visit Denounced

SK1804141694 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1223 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Commentary by Kim Ho-sam: "The United States Must Stop the Maneuver To Deploy the Patriot Missiles"]

[Text] The U.S. imperialists' maneuver to provoke a nuclear war in South Korea is being taken to a very grave stage. According to a report, the first Patriot missile unit, consisting of 48 missiles and some 800 soldiers, will arrive in South Korea sometime this week and will be deployed in accordance with U.S. Defense Department orders.

According to another report, the second Patriot missile unit will soon be dispatched to the Korean peninsula. As it has already been reported, U.S. Defense Secretary Perry will make a junket to South Korea this week and will hold discussions with the South Korean puppet defense minister on the situation on the Korean peninsula. This shows that the situation on the Korean peninsula is heading all the more toward the brink of war.

As it is known, the United States and the South Korean puppets decided to gradually deploy the Patriot missiles to South Korea beginning in October 1994. Nevertheless, the United States is starting to deploy them to South Korea from the middle of this month, six months earlier than scheduled.

What does this show? This shows that the United States is trying to provoke a nuclear war in Korea without fail by finding fault with our nonexistent nuclear issue.

As it is known, the U.S. military is drawing up an aggressive war plan to bring in 600,000 aggressive forces, over 200 vessels, and over 1,600 airplanes—including two Marine Corps divisions—from the continental U.S. within 80 days in event of an emergency on the Korean peninsula.

The South Korean puppets are assuming a posture of attack by even making public their plan to invade the North under the new strategy plan 5027 which had been kept secret up until now.

We cannot but take seriously the remarks made by U.S. Defense Secretary Perry who openly said that the possibility of a preemptive military strike on North Korea will not be ruled out and that he is ready to risk a war. The U.S. Patriot missile units are arriving in South Korea at such a time.

U.S. military officials are lecturing that the Patriot missiles they introduced are defensive weapons to prepare against an attack. That is merely a deceptive talk to disguise their aggressive nature. The Patriot missiles are of an improved type and their threat varies with the type of warheads installed. This proves that Patriot missiles are not simply defensive weapons but can also be used as offensive weapons to strike the opponent.

Patriot missiles are being deployed to South Korea at a time when the United States has moved numerous Navy carriers around the Korean peninsula, has put them in a ready posture for immediate deployment at any time, and is trying to conduct the Team Spirit joint military exercise by all means. This shows that the risk of a nuclear war in our country is approaching a visible reality.

There is no guarantee that the United States would not attack us with Patriot missiles after putting the South Korean war maniacs in the front to ignite the fuse of war. Our people cannot but heighten an equivalent alert regarding the reinforced commotion of military power buildup in South Korea coinciding with the U.S. defense secretary's junket to South Korea.

If the United States continues to build up military power indiscriminately despite our repeated warnings and chooses the direction of a nuclear war in the end, it will sustain a staunch punishment [tanhohan chingbol] by our people.

The aggressors will only be met with bitter defeat and deaths.

Press Commentary on Perry Visit to ROK Cited

Visit Called 'Dangerous'

SK1904052194 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0250 GMT 19 Apr 94

[NODONG SINMUN 19 April commentary: "A Warmonger's Visit for War"]

[Text] It has been reported that U.S. Secretary of Defense Perry will visit South Korea. A spokesman for the Department of Defense said that the main purpose of his visit to South Korea is to hold meetings with military leaders, to receive briefings from commanders in South Korea on situations, and to take necessary military steps, while talking about the North's military moves.

This shows that Perry's visit to South Korea is a dangerous visit for war [wihomhan chonjaeng haenggak] to further strengthen military pressure against us, to extremely aggravate tensions on the Korean peninsula, and to embark upon the road of war under the pretext of the nuclear issue.

As disclosed recently, last year, the U.S. imperialists formulated a plan for a war of northward invasion, the so-called New Operational Plan No. 5027, along with the South Korean puppets. Based on this, they have concentrated their massive arms of aggression on the Korean peninsula, as well as the areas surrounding it.

According to the report issued by the U.S. Department of Defense in mid-February this year, the U.S. imperialists have maintained approximately 100,000 aggressive troops in the Far East in preparation for the emergency situation on the Korean peninsula. Also they have reinforced the military equipment for U.S. Forces occupying South Korea, including the deployment of Patriot missiles to South Korea, and accelerated military preparedness for the wartime situation [chonsi cheje].

After occupying the post of secretary of defense, Perry has made many remarks that reek of gunpowder [hwayangnae pungginun], while taking the lead in talking about the nuclear development by the North. He has babbled loudly that he will make the North stop developing nuclear weapons at the price of another war on the Korean peninsula, and instead of discussing mere plans for military steps during this visit to South Korea, that he will concretely discuss how, when, and why military steps should be taken.

This shows that the U.S. secretary of defense's visit to South Korea is a visit for his front-line command [ilson chihwihaenggak] aimed at reorganizing their wartime system in order to put their already established plan for a Northward invasion war into practice, as well as a visit to plot their operation to organize a combined armed forces [yonhap muryok] against us.

Perry, the boss of a war plot, will visit South Korea at a time when the U.S. imperialists are concentrating their massive arms of aggression on South Korea and the areas surrounding it in order to bring the disaster of nuclear war to our nation. Therefore, this is not a thing that can be overlooked.

Also, his visit to South Korea is a visit to plunder and exploit the South Korean people by heightening tensions on the Korean peninsula, by subjugating South Korea even more militarily, and by sending stocked military supplies to South Korea. It is well known that the U.S. leaders [udumoridul] are aggravating tensions and stirring up disputes in every place to find an outlet for the munitions industrial complexes which have faced difficulties finding markets since the Cold War ended. As a person formerly in charge of military equipment affairs from the mid-sixties until recently, U.S. Secretary of Defense Perry has had close relations with large munitions businesses. He was also in charge of military equipment for coping with South Korea [taenamjoson kunsa changbi] in the past. It is clear that Perry will visit South Korea to generate profits for munitions businesses, to militarize the South Korean economy, and to force the puppets to increase their proportion in the fund for maintaining the U.S. Forces in South Korea by deliberately aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula and by turning South Korea into a U.S. arms exhibition center.

Perry's visit to South Korea will accelerate the driving of the Korean peninsula's situation to the dangerous brink of war and will infringe upon the South Korean people's interests. In view of this grave consequence, his visit to South Korea is totally regarded as a trip for aggression and war [cholchohi chimnyakkwa chonjaeng haenggak], and inevitably faces our people's opposition and rejection [pandae paegyok].

What matters is that the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique, as a U.S. war servant [migugui chonjaeng mosumggun], is welcoming the U.S. military head's visit to South Korea and is running indiscreetly to set a fire of war against fellow countrymen with the United States.

After rupturing working-level contacts for the exchange of top-level special envoys of the North and the South, the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique put the entire puppet Army on alert and is accelerating preparations for a northward invasion while talking about strong countermeasures, punishing retaliation, and the like.

The Kim Yong-sam puppet clique has recently dispatched a special inspection team to the military and even made a stir of reconfirming the state of ammunition held in reserve for combat and of inspecting the management of ammunition in store. It is needless to say again that this was conducted according to the U.S. imperialists' adventurous, new war maneuver.

When the U.S. bellicose military head and South Korea's civilian warmongers sit face to face, they have nothing to do but scheme up a war, and it leaves no room for doubt that this will threaten peace and reunification of Korea more gravely.

We will attentively watch the warmonger's ominous [simsangchi anun] visit to South Korea. If the aggressors and nation-sellers set fire first [sonbulchirul bandamyon], they will be made to pay dearly for their behavior.

'Ill-Boding Trip' Previewed

SK1904055994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0515 GMT 19 Apr 94

["NODONG SINMUN Brands U.S. Defense Secretary's Visit to South Korea as Dangerous War Trip"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—A NODONG SINMUN analyst today condemns the upcoming visit to South Korea of U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry as a dangerous war trip intended to increase military pressure on the DPRK, push the situation on the Korean peninsula to an extreme pitch of strain and unleash a war on the pretext of the "Nuclear Issue".

In a commentary entitled "War Trip of a Bellicose Element" the analyst says:

After his assumption of office as Secretary of Defense Perry raved that the North's "nuclear development" should be stopped even at the risk of another war on the Korean peninsula and that during his tour of South Korea he would not merely seek measures for "military sanctions" but discuss in detail when, how and why such military steps must be taken.

This tells that his visit to South Korea will be a trip for commanding the frontline to reorganize the wartime system for the execution of their already mapped-out scenario of war against the North and a trip for operational discussion to form combined forces against the North.

It must not go unnoticed that Perry, a boss of war fanatics, is coming to South Korea at a time when the U.S. imperialists have massed their huge aggression forces in and around South Korea to inflict the scourge of a nuclear war upon the Korean nation.

Perry's tour of South Korea is also a trip of plunder to further subjugate South Korea to the United States militarily, while keying up the tensions by taking issue with the North, and fleecing the South Korean people through the shipment of their stockpiled munitions.

Perry had once kept close contacts with big military industrial businesses, while taking charge of military hardware until some time ago since the mid-1960s. It is clear that Perry with such a career behind him is coming to visit South Korea with the aim of deliberately aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula and turning South Korea into a U.S. arms exhibition so as to make munitions businesses rake in profits and further militarize the South Korean economy and with the aim of forcing the puppets to pay more for the maintenance of the U.S. forces present in South Korea.

There is no doubt that the bellicose U.S. military boss and the "civilian" warmaniacs of South Korea will have nothing to discuss but war when they sit face to face and peace and reunification of Korea will subsequently face a more grave threat.

We are following with vigilance the warmaniac's ill-boding trip to South Korea.

If the aggressors and the traitors open the fire first, they would have to pay dearly for it.

Arrival of Patriot Missiles in Pusan Reported

SK1904110394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1051 GMT 19 Apr 94

["Perilous Development"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—Two transports of the U.S. Navy loaded with Patriot missiles to be deployed in South Korea arrived at Pusan port on Monday, says a report from Seoul.

The unloading of 48 launching pads, 192 Patriot missiles and 84 stinger missiles has begun. Their frontline deployment will reportedly be completed by the 29th of this month.

The second batch of Patriot missiles will shortly arrive to be deployed by the same date, the report says.

he shipment of Patriot to South Korea by the United tates and the South Korean puppet clique is a very angerous development leading the military situation on he Korean peninsula to the brink of war. This is a vivid ndication that the rash scheme of the United States and he Kim Yong-sam traitor clique to overpower our epublic militarily has already entered a practical stage.

ur people and the Asian people are deeply concerned ver the reckless military action of the U.S. and the outh Korean puppet clique.

he U.S. authorities claim that the Patriot is "a defen-ive weapon." But it is a nonsense. In the Korean eninsula which is not large, it can also be used as an ttack weapon capable of striking any spot. It is known o everyone that the target of its strike can be freely ltered by the warhead it is tipped with.

he shipment of the new-type Patriot to South Korea by he United States and the Kim Yong-sam puppet clique s an open new war provocation act to pose a military hreat to the DPRK and deal a preemptive strike at it.

he fact proves that the United States, from the very eginning, did not have the intention to solve the nuclear ssue on the Korean peninsula through dialogue and egotiation but has used the problem as an expedient to verpower our Republic, motivated by its outdated ostile policy to stifle it.

n trying to subdue us with the help of outside forces by ringing in without hesitation even the Patriot, a mass estruction weapon, the South Korean puppet clique tands naked once again revealing its ugly color to the world as a never-to-be-condoned flunkeyist traitor and warmaniac.

t is a foolish dream for the United States and the South Korean puppet clique to try to overpower us with trength. It is the unshakable will of our people to answer trength with strength.

he United States and the South Korean puppet clique must not act rashly but promptly stop the deployment of he new-type missiles in South Korea, clearly seeing the nshakable will of our people.

ROK Student Protest Against Patriots Noted

SK1904111394 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1009 GMT 19 Apr 94

Text] This news is just in. College students in Seoul and Kwangju Districts have staged violent anti-U.S. demonstrations, chanting slogans such as "We hate Patriots!" nd "We hate Perry!"

According to Seoul radio reports, on 19 April, the college tudents in Seoul and Kwangju waged violent demonstration struggles, protesting the arrival of Patriot missiles in the port of Pusan and U.S. Defense Secretary Perry's junket to Seoul.

In Seoul, a group of students, breaking a tight police cordon, waged a demonstration struggle in front of the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, chanting anti-U.S. slogans with placards such as "We hate Patriots!" and "We hate Perry!"

In the meantime, on the morning of 19 April, some 500 members of the Kwangju Chonnam District General Student Council staged a protest rally in front of the Kwangju American Cultural Center. Branding the U.S. defense secretary's junket to Seoul and the deployment of Patriot missiles to South Korea as a criminal act of increasing the danger of war, the students threw some 200 bottles of paint at the American Cultural Center building.

The puppet clique, perplexed by the students' strong protests, mobilized numerous combat policemen to brutally suppress the student demonstrators. However, the demonstrators did not yield to this and continued their struggle, chanting slogans calling for the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggression forces.

Antinuclear Group Condemns Patriot Deployment

SK1904112194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1110 GMT 19 Apr 94

["Halt to Arms Buildup Urged"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—The United States and the South Korean rulers must clearly see the strong spirit and iron will of the Korean people, who never pardon those who infringe upon the dignity of the nation and the sovereignty of the country, promptly stop aggressive arms buildup including the deployment of Patriot missiles and discontinue the reckless war provocation moves at once, urged the Korean anti-nuke peace committee in a statement released today.

Branding the deployment of Patriot by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets as a total breach of the DPRK-U.S. joint statement and the North-South joint declaration on denuclearization and an undisguised military provocation aimed at unleashing another war, a thermonuclear war in Korea at any cost, the statement says:

The introduction of the Patriot rejected in other regions is an inevitable product of the despicable flunkeyist and treacherous policy pursued by the Kim Yong-sam group, which has turned South Korea into an exhibition ground for new and old U.S. weapons and into an arms market.

The Kim Yong-sam group unilaterally broke up the working contact for the exchange of special envoys between the North and the South which had been arranged with so much efforts and, later, openly incited a war fever, spreading a rumor about "the North's scheme to provoke a war against the South," and made public even a war plan against the North dubbed "New Operation Plan No. 5027" which had been kept in secrecy. All this was motivated by its despicable purpose of finding a pretext for a massive shipment of U.S.-made destruction weapons into South Korea and legalizing it, thus furthering the interests of the United States, its master.

It has become clear to everybody that with such a traitor as Kim Yong-sam left in power in South Korea, the interests of the nation cannot be defended and our fellow countrymen cannot avoid a nuclear disaster.

The South Korean students and people must invigorate the anti-America, anti-war, anti-nuke and anti-"government" struggle to oust the Kim Yong-sam group from power and establish an independent and democratic government and to check the introduction of the Patriot into South Korea.

If the United States and the South Korean puppets finally started a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula, ignoring the aspiration of the times and the demand of the nation and steadily reinforcing the aggression forces, the provokers would never get off scotfree.

Radio Denounces U.S. 'Military Threats'

SK1904141994 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1225 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Unattributed talk: "War Commotions Expanded Step by Step"]

[Text] Recently, the heads of U.S. military circles have increased their military threats against us.

Some time ago, U.S. Defense Secretary Perry let loose outbursts that our nuclear development should be stopped even at the risk of another war on the Korean peninsula, that the United States will not rule out a preemptive strike against us, and that it will make military preparations against war.

At the same time, the U.S. military circles are taking actions, such as bringing in massive military equipment, including Patriot missiles, to South Korea; concentrating its Naval force in the waters around our country; and frequently staging military exercises with the South Korean puppets.

The outward escalation [nogoljogin hwaktae] of the U.S. military circles' military actions are extremely dangerous provocative acts designed to carry into practice the war scenario which they had rounded off through the Team Spirit exercises with the purpose of crushing [apsal] our socialism with force [him].

As it has been widely known, the Team Spirit joint military exercise is a test nuclear war and a preliminary war opposing us. The goal of such exercise is aimed at not only threatening us militarily but also rounding off their preparations to unleash a new Korean war. Now, the U.S. military circles attempt to carry their provocative war plan into practice.

The step-by-step escalation of the U.S. military circles' military actions opposing our republic is an expression of the strategy of the expansion of arms market which had been worked out through back-door dealings [maghuhungjong] between the U.S. Administration and the U.S. war industry monopolies. The U.S. war industry monopolies try to aggravate the situation by all means in order to make enormous profits by manufacturing more weapons. However, with the end of the Cold War, it became more difficult for them to sell lethal weapons.

The U.S. administration officials are, without exception, servants of big monopolies, especially munitions industry monopolies. Hence, they try to unleash a war on the Korean peninsula to fatten the munitions industry monopolies.

In the meantime, the South Korean puppet clique, which tries to sustain its filthy life through outside dependence, maneuvers to massively bring in U.S. weapons to give enormous profits to the U.S. war industry monopolies and drive its fellow countrymen into a whirlpool of war.

Stemming from these political goal and economic interests, the U.S. military circles have set themselves onto the stage of raising the curtain of the already-plotted Korean war scenario and buckling down to promote it on a full scale.

Taking advantage of the reckless military actions taken by the United States, the South Korean puppets made public their war plan to invade the North, the New Operation Plan No. 5027, and issued a special alert on the puppet Army. In this connection, the puppet Armed Forces are fully prepared to kindle a war at any time.

Currently, a very grave situation is being created on the Korean peninsula in which the flames of war may flare up even over a trivial and accidental element. This kind of situation was born wholly because the United States and the South Korean puppets have already entered a stage of actual military action to provoke a new war.

It is brazen-faced for the U.S. military to depict such reckless antirepublic military action as if it were for its self-defense while talking about a diplomatic resolution through patience.

It is a well known fact that historically, before attacking another country, the United States has used the method of advocating a diplomatic resolution and then justifying a military action. In the past, when committing armed invasion toward countries such as Grenada and Panama, the U.S. ruling class hung the seemingly signboard of protecting the U.S. citizens, the antidrug struggle, and so on.

The active and tolerant diplomatic resolution which they are professing toward us constitutes war diplomacy to yield and gain supremacy over us through armed invasion. Also, their so-called defense is nothing but a smokescreen to hide their bellicose nature and aggressiveness.

What is absurd is that some members of the U.S. ruling class are spreading falsehoods by saying things as if we were taking some kind of military action first, and are attempting to justify their military adventurous maneuver. This is a defilement of our peace- loving position and a nasty act which is to damage the self-defensive character our revolutionary armed force possesses.

The international social circle officially recognizes our peace- loving position and policy. Our revolutionary armed force is through and through a self-defensive armed force in which its fundamental mission is to defend our republic's sovereign right and security.

It is preposterous for some members of the U.S. ruling class to publicize about our so-called military attack, and is the same as the proverb, "Like a thief calling another a thief." During the Persian Gulf war, the United States put on a bold front of the single superpower, openly moved and deployed the aggressive forces in this region, and committed an overall war on Iraq. However, in our country, the United States laid a smokescreen of so-called self-defense, is concentratedly deploying armed forces in South Korea and its region, and is also trying to carry out a military attack opposing our republic.

However, they have miscalculated. No forcible measures can work for us at all. Our people and the People's Army are sharply observing the unusual war attempt by the United States. If the United States and its cat's paw kindle the fire of war to the end, we will answer through a resolute counterattack by defending our country's socialist system and the Republic's dignity.

The truth of history is that justice is victorious and injustice is defeated. The United States must not carry out rash and thoughtless acts, and it will be good for it to not forget the bitter lesson of the past Korean war.

Commentary Analyzes U.S. 'Scheme' for War

SK1904063294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 19 Apr 94

["Military Analyst on Scheme of U.S. Military for New Korean War"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today comes out with a military analyst's commentary hitting out at the scheme of the U.S. military to start another war in Korea.

The U.S. Defense Secretary, William Perry, some time ago let loose an impudent blast, threatening that the U.S. "will not rule out a preemptive strike" at the DPRK over its fictitious "nuclear suspicion."

Signalled by this, the U.S. military is making a massive shipment of military hardware including Patriot missiles to South Korea, massing its naval force in the waters around Korea and frequently staging military drills with the South Korean puppets in their intensified military actions.

Viewing this as dangerous provocative acts intended to carry into practice the war scenario which it had rounded off through the "Team Spirit" joint war games from long ago for the purpose of stifling the socialism of the DPRK with "strength," the military analyst says:

The escalation of the U.S. military actions against the DPRK is an offspring of the strategy of the expansion of arms market which had been worked out through "back-door dealings" between the U.S. administration and the U.S. war industrial monopolies. The officials of the U.S. administration are, without exception, servants of big monopolies, especially munitions industrial monopolies. Hence their manoeuvres to ignite a war on the Korean peninsula and fatten the munitions industrial monopolies which find themselves in a sorry plight with the shrinkage of the arms market after the end of the cold war.

Motivated by these interests, the U.S. military raised the curtain of the Korean war scenario and buckled down to its full- scale promotion.

Now a very grave situation which might touch off a war for a slightest casual factor is prevailing on the Korean peninsula.

The U.S. military is shameless enough to harp on "a patient diplomatic solution," describing its harebrained anti-DPRK military actions as "for self-defense."

It is well-known a fact that the United States has down through history cried for "a diplomatic solution" before invading other countries and then tried to justify its military actions. The "active and patient diplomatic solution" vis-a-vis the DPRK advertised by the U.S. is nothing but a war diplomacy to bring it to its knees and overpower it by armed invasion and the socalled "defense" on the lips of the U.S. is no more than a smokescreen to conceal its bellicose and aggressive nature.

Behind the smokescreen of "self-defense" the United States is scheming to mass armed forces in and around South Korea and venture a military action against the DPRK.

But they are committing a mistake.

No strong arm works with us. Should the United States and its lackeys dare provoke a war, we will answer it with a decisive counter blow to defend our socialist system and the dignity of our republic.

The United States would be well advised not to act rashly or forget the bitter lesson of the past Korean war.

KCNA Cites ROK Radio on Greenpeace Rally

SK1904053994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—Greenpeace, the international organisation of environmental movement, urged the puppet authorities of South Korea to stop the construction project of the atomic power station now underway, according to a radio report from Seoul.

Some 20 members of the organisation raised this demand at an anti-nuke rally they held in Samchok on April 14 with about 1,000 members of environmental protection and anti-nuke organisations of South Korea.

Sounding a warning against the danger of radioactive leakage from the South Korean atomic power station, Greenpeace is strongly demanding a stop to its construction project, said the radio.

Foreign Press Cited on ROK Anti-U.S. Rally

SK1904071694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—Some 2,000 students of South Korea held a rally in Seoul on April 16 against the treacherous farm market opening by the traitor Kim Yong-sam, according to a foreign press report.

After the rally, they went over to a demonstration and marched toward the U.S. Embassy in Sejong Street, Seoul, clashing with riot police and shouting "Yankees, Go Home" and "Oppose Foreign Farm Goods".

The protesters carried U.S. flags with an "x" drawn across them to show their anti-American resolution.

Hanminjon Urges Uprising To Oust Kim Yong-sam

SK1904055694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0433 GMT 19 Apr 94

["Ouster of Kim Yong-sam Group From Power Urged"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—Cho Il-min, chief of the Pyongyang mission of the South Korean National Democratic Front (Hanminjon), issued a statement to the press on April 18 on the lapse of 34 years since the April 19 popular uprising.

The heroic April popular uprising involving patriotic students and people of various strata of South Korea was a historical event that marked a brilliant victory in the struggle of the South Korean people to overthrow the Syngman Rhee dictatorial "regime" and build a national independent government free from subjugation and fascism, he said.

Pointing out that the colonial fascist repressive rule of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges is still in force in South Korea contrary to the desire and aspirations of the valiant participants in the April uprising, he said:

"We must kindle fierce flames of struggle once again to bring the second April 19 uprising to the land of South Korea and oust the Kim Yong-sam group from power.

"Our Hanminjon will wage a more staunch struggle to drive the U.S. imperialist aggressors out of South Korea and liquidate their colonial rule, holding higher the banner of independence against the United States, in the van of the people of all strata including students.

"For the present, we will expand the mass struggles against the rice market opening, the introduction of Patriot missiles and the resumption of the 'Team Spirit' joint military exercises and rapidly develop them into anti-war, anti-nuke, anti-American struggles.

"We will certainly accomplish the cause of national reunification in the 90s by smashing all the anti-nation and anti-independence moves of the splittists at home and abroad, upholding the banner of the 10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country' put forward by the great leader President Kim Il-song."

Youth Leader's Remarks at Meeting Cited

Criticizes U.S. Actions

SK1904153094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT 19 Apr 94

["34th Anniversary of April 19 Uprising Marked"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—Hyongyang citizens and students held a meeting today to commemorate the 34th anniversary of the April 19 uprising of the South Korean people.

The heroic popular uprising in South Korea on April 19, 1960, was a massive anti-America, anti-fascist resistance against the U.S. imperialists' colonial domination and their stooges' fascist suppressive rule and for independent and democratic new politics, new system and new life.

In his report Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea, said the April popular uprising developed the anti-America, anti-fascist struggle and national reunification movement of the South Korean students and people to a new stage and fully demonstrated worldwide their indomitable, patriotic spirit.

He said the desire of the uprisers had not yet been realised in South Korea because the U.S. imperialists were still pursuing the old policy of keeping hold on South Korea as their colony.

He said:

"The United States has not only failed to implement the DPRK-U.S. joint statement but also reversed the simultaneous action steps agreed upon at the DPRK-U.S. contact in New York, made the third round of the DPRK-U.S. talks abortive under an unreasonable pretext and egged some dishonest officials of the International Atomic Energy Agency on to take 'the nuclear issue' of the DPRK to the United Nations Security Council in a bid to isolate and stifle the DPRK by abusing the name of the United Nations. The United States has brought nuclear war equipment including Patriot missiles into South Korea and massed nuclear-powered aircraft carriers and many warships in the waters around the Korean peninsula. This indicates that the United States is seeking a solution to the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula with 'strength.'

"The Kim Yong-sam group has engaged in flunkeyist and treacherous acts, following outside forces, suppressed the pro-reunification patriotic forces, acted a shock brigade in the 'nuclear' clamor against the DPRK, chiming in with the United States in its strategy of a nuclear war, to extremely deteriorate the North-South relations and bring the danger of nuclear war to the Korean peninsula.

"All the compatriots in the North, South and overseas must rise up as one in the nationwide struggle for national reunification through confederacy and open a new phase for the country's reunification this year, united closely under the banner of '10-point programme of the great unity of the whole nation for the reunification of the country,' irrespective of idea, political view, religious belief, political grouping, classes and strata and property status."

Accuses U.S. of Hostile Policy

SK1904125394 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1100 GMT 19 Apr 94

["Commemorative report" by Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea Central Committee, at a meeting marking the 34th anniversary of the 19 April uprising of the South Korean people held at Pyongyang's Central Workers Hall on 19 April—recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The United States is not fulfilling the DPRK-U.S. joint statement which was agreed with us. Moreover, it overturned the steps of simultaneous action [tongsi haengdong chochi] which was agreed upon at the DPRK-U.S. contact in New York, aborted the third round of DPRK-U.S. talks by giving unreasonable excuses, and is scheming to isolate and stifle [apsal] our Republic under the name of the United Nations by laying our nuclear issue before the UN Security Council and instigating some insidious officials of the International Atomic Energy Agency.

On top of that, while babbling that it will not rule out a preemptive military attack against North Korea, the U.S. bellicose class is bringing in nuclear war equipment, including Patriot missiles, to South Korea. Also, it is concentrating nuclear aircraft carriers and many military vessels around our country's neighboring waters.

This clearly shows that the United States does not have the will to resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula through peaceful means, and that it is trying to resolve it through force.

The hostile policy toward Korea by the U.S. imperialists is being all the more promoted by the South Korean nation-selling traitors and is bringing about a more grave situation. [passage omitted]

Repatriation of Former POW's in ROK Demanded

ROK Journal Cited

SK1904102094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1006 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—The first and second issues of the South Korean magazine HUMAN RIGHTS of 1994 reported that the South Korean headquarters for the promotion of the repatriation of old Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan which was formed in June last year has conducted brisk activities demanding the repatriation of these two old men, long-term prisoners who have refused to be converted.

This headquarters involves the human rights committee of the Council of Christian Churches, human rights committees of Roman Catholic and Buddhist organisations, the bar association for a Democratic Society, the Council of Family Movement for Realising Democracy and other civilian human rights organisations, and human rights committees and dissident organisations in Taejon and Kwangju.

After its inauguration, it sent appeals to the South Korean "minister of the Unification Board" and presidents of the International Red Cross and of the South Korean Red Cross, strongly demanding the repatriation of the two unconverted long-term prisoners to the northern half of Korea.

A statement of the headquarters carried in the magazine HUMAN RIGHTS said old Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan must have been repatriated at the time of exchange of POWs according to the Geneva Conventions because they were taken prisoners during the war, but they had been submitted for trial by the "court-martial" and made to suffer in prison for scores of years. It strongly urged the South Korean authorities to return the two old men to the North as soon as possible.

Repatriation Committee Said Formed

SK1904115194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1022 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—A committee for the promotion of the repatriation of old Kim Yong-tae, a long-term prisoner who has refused to be converted, is now active in South Korea, according to the South Korean magazine "HUMAN RIGHTS" Nos. 1 and 2 of 1994.

Hailing from Chongju, North Phyongan Province, he volunteered to join in the People's Army at the age of 18 when the U.S. imperialists unleashed the war of aggression against Korea in 1950.

He was wounded on the front and taken prisoner. He should have been repatriated to the northern half of Korea according to the Geneva Convention. But, he has not been sent back to the North due to the unlawful acts of the South Korean puppet clique and had to serve a prison term of 33 years in South Korea for his refusal to be converted.

A committee for the promotion of the repatriation of old Kim Yong-tae centering on a Christian organisation was formed early in December last year.

According to the magazine, Kim Yong-tae in a recent letter to the president of the International Red Cross said that although he was released from prison, he was making his living by toilsome work for many hours at a rough-work place as a lonely and old disabled man without his relatives, chained by the "law on supervision for public peace." He asked for help, saying that it was his cherished desire to meet his relatives once before he died.

Red Cross Group Sends Letter

SK1904113294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1100 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the DPRK Red Cross Society, in a letter sent today to Kang Yong-hun, president of the South Korean Red Cross, urged the South side once again to show a positive response at an early date to the reasonable demand of the North for an immediate repatriation of Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan, prisoners of war.

The letter says:

The South side in a telephone message December 3 last year turned down the reasonable demand of the North for the repatriation of Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan, contending that they did not belong to the category of prisoners of war because of their guerrilla activities and acceptance of nationality. Its wrong attitude and assertion are quite contrary to the humanitarianism of Red Cross.

According to international law, those who are arrested by the warring party while in action are to be considered prisoners of war, be they soldiers or guerrillas. Therefore, Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan must be treated as prisoners of war and should have been repatriated under the Korean Armistice Agreement.

The South side's refusal of their repatriation on the ground of their nationality acceptance shows that it acts contrary to the humanitarianism of Red Cross, manipulated by some seditious forces that dislike national reconciliation and unity.

As you know, Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan do not want to live in South Korea and have already asked the International Committee of the Red Cross to help them in their repatriation to the North.

The two daughters of Kim In-so, the sister of Ham Se-hwan in her eighties and other family members and relatives in the northern half of the country are earnestly wishing their repatriation to the North.

We hold that the repatriation of Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan, who are undeniably prisoners of war, must be realised at an early date as required by the Korean Armistice Agreement and the international law on prisoners of war, unhindered by any pretext or condition.

Chongnyon Delegation Meets With Yi In-mo

SK1804054594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0529 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—Members of the delegation of old officials of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) headed by Paek Chong-won, chairman of the Korean Physical Culture and Sports Federation, and the 209th short-term home-visiting group of Korean residents in Japan on a visit to the socialist homeland met comrade Yi In-mo, the incarnation of faith and will, at the People's Palace of Culture on April 17.

Noting that he had fought, keeping his pledge to the party and the leader and the motherland, Comrade Yi In-mo said "we will certainly win if we have the revolutionary faith to uphold the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il."

The visitors said they would devote their all to the national reunification and patriotic work of Chongnyon, upholding the leadership of respected Generalissimo Kim Il-song and dear Marshal Kim Chong-il with loyalty.

They hardened their indomitable will, singing in chorus "We will win because you are leading us", a song of faith.

On the same day, the delegation of old officials of Chongnyon met anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters, veterans of the fatherland liberation war and those who had rendered meritorious services in the wartime.

Chongnyon Supports National Conference Plan

SK1804152294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang April (KCNA)—A meeting of representatives of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon) and its organizations supporting the convocation of a national conference proposed at a joint meeting of the government, political parties and social organizations of the DPRK was held in Tokyo on April 13.

The joint meeting held on April 11 proposed to the South Korean authorities, political parties, organisations and individual figures and overseas Koreans to hold a national conference in Pyongyang or Seoul on the occasion of August 15.

So Man-sol, vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongnyon, in his report at the meeting said the proposal is fair and feasible one acceptable to anyone either in view of the time or in view of its content.

The proposal of the joint meeting for convening a national conference enables all Koreans who want national reunification to unite as one nation, transcending the difference in idea, ideology and system, no matter where they live and what they do, and enables not only the authorities but also the compatriots of all walks of life in the North and South and overseas to take full responsibility for the reunification of the country, he said.

He strongly demanded that the South Korean authorities renounce confrontation and nuclear war exercises and actively respond to creating a favorable atmosphere for convening a national conference from the stand of great unity of the nation.

He called for waging as an all-compatriotic movement the struggle to bring to a success the convocation of a national conference proposed at the joint meeting.

A statement supporting the convocation of a national conference was adopted at the meeting.

Irish Party Delegation, WPK Meet for Talks

Party Delegates Exchange Views

SK1304213694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1507 GMT 13 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 13 (KCNA)—Talks between the delegations of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Workers' Party of Ireland [WPI] were held here today.

Present at the talks on the Korean side were Hwang Chang-yop, secretary; Kim Yang-kon, vice department director, of the C.C. [Central Committee], the WPK; officials concerned, and on the opposite side were the members of the delegation headed by General Secretary of the WPI Pat Quearney.

The sides informed each other of activities of their parties and exchanged views on the development of friendly relations between the two parties and some other matters of common concern.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

WPK Hosts Party

SK1404050194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0427 GMT 14 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 14 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Wednesday gave a party for the visiting delegation of the Workers' Party of Ireland.

Secretary of the C.C. [Central Committee], the WPK Hwang Chang-yop, addressing the party, said that the Workers' Party of Ireland [WPI], under the slogan "future is socialism", is now positively striving for the neutrality and non-alignment of Ireland against the war policy and arms race of the imperialists, strengthening the party and unity with the masses.

He warmly congratulated the WPI on growing stronger and developing into a massive party with each passing day and expressed positive support and solidarity to their noble struggle for independence and socialism against imperialism.

General Secretary of the WPI Pat Quearney in his speech expressed thanks for the hospitality accorded to his delegation and said they would learn much from the Korean people.

Assuring that he will introduce the Korean people's struggle to the Irish people and conduct a struggle against the U.S. policy towards Korea, he hoped that all questions facing the Korean people would be settled in a peaceful way.

Kim Yong-nam Receives Irish Visitors

SK1904053894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0427 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—A friendly gathering between officials of the Korea-Ireland Friendship Association and the visiting chairman of the Ireland-Korea Friendship Association took place in Pyongyang on April 18.

Present there were Sean Garland, chairman of the Ireland-Korea Friendship Association, and Pat Quearney, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Ireland.

Kim Yong-nam, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea and chairman of the Korea-Ireland Friendship Association, and officials concerned were present.

The participants had a conversation in a friendly atmosphere.

Special Envoy of Libyan President Visits Capital

Arrives at Airport

SK1804054194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0519 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—The inspector-general of the Armed Forces of Libya, Mustafa al Haroubi, who is a special envoy of the leader of the great September First revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and his entourage arrived here Sunday. They were met at the airport by Choe Kwang, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army, Chang Song-kil, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, officials concerned and Ramadan Muhammad El Laubi, acting secretary of the People's Committee of the Libyan People's Bureau in Korea.

A ceremony for welcoming the special envoy and his entourage took place at the airport.

In the evening, the government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea gave a party for the special envoy and his entourage at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

Choe Kwang Meets With Libyans

SK1804054094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0516 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—Comrade Choe Kwang, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army [KPA], met and had a friendly conversation with Colonel Mustafa al Haroubi, inspector-general of the Libyan Armed Forces who is a special envoy of the leader of the great September First revolution of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, and his entourage, when they paid a courtesy call on him at the Mansudae Assembly Hall on April 17.

Present were Chang Song-kil, vice-minister of Foreign Affairs, and Ramadan Muhammad El Laubi, acting secretary of the People's Committee of the Libyan People's Bureau in Korea.

Kim Il-song Receives Envoy

SK1904115794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1103 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song on April 19 received the inspector-general of Armed Forces of Libya, Mustafa al-Haroubi, who is a special envoy of the leader of the great September first revolution of the great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and his entourage on a visit to Korea.

Present there were Vice-premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam, chief of the General Staff of the Korean People's Army Choe Kwang, Vice-minister of Foreign Affairs Chang Song-kil and acting Secretary of the People's Committee of the Libyan People's Bureau in Korea Ramadan Muhammad al-Ra'Ubi.

The special envoy warmly congratulated President Kim Il-song on his birthday, wishing him good health and a long life, and conveyed to him a personnel letter of His Excellency Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great September first revolution of the great Socialist People's Libyan Abab Jamahiriya.

Expressing thanks for them President Kim Il-song conversed with the guests in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

President Kim Il-song arranged a luncheon for the guests.

Foreign Former Heads of State Continue Visit

View West Sea Barrage

SK1604044294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 16 (KCNA)—The Pyongyang-visiting group of former heads of state and government and politicians of different countries led by ex-president of Costa Rica Rodrigo Carazo Odio staying in Korea visited the West Sea barrage Friday.

The barrage with a 8 km dam across a rough sea tens of metres deep was built by soldier builders in a matter of 5 years.

The head of the visiting-group had this to say:

"The West Sea barrage is a monumental edifice for the prosperity of the country and the welfare of the people.

"The excellent monumental creation can be built only when wise guidance, mass strength and technical wisdom are combined. I think it is very beneficial for visitors to Korea to see this monument. It is because the only people who aspire after peace, progress and prosperity can create such a great and magnificent monument. It is a creation which serves peace and the promotion of people's living."

He expressed thanks to the government and people of Korea who have built the excellent monument showing the massive will and strength and leadership as a whole. Executive Director of the Summit Council for World Peace Antonio Betancourt wrote in visitor's book that the barrage is a great creation showing the ardent love of the Korean people for their leader, their country and future.

On the same day, the visiting group was ushered to the recreation ground on Mt. Taesong, where the group spent a pleasant time of rest with working people in Pyongyang enjoying the April holiday.

Kim Il-song Receives Group

SK1604113994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1050 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 16 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received the Pyongyang-visiting group of former heads of state and government and politicians of different countries staying here.

The visiting group led by ex-President of Costa Rica Rodrigo Carazo Odio, consists of former Governor-General of Canada Edward Schreyer, former Prime Minister of Egypt Aziz Sedky, former chief of staff of the Armed Forces of France, member of the European Parliament and chairman of the union of independentists general of the Army Jeannou Lacaze, former member of the parliament of France and member of the European Parliament Pierro Ceyrac, senior vice-president of the Center for Strategic and International Studies of the United States William Taylor, senior vice president of the CNN International Eason Jordan, executive director of the Summit Council for World Peace Antonio Betancourt, director of research of the Summit Council for World Peace Mark P. Barry, former senior advisor to the assistant secretary of state for human rights of the United States James Zumwalt, managing editor of THE WASHINGTON TIMES Josette Shiner, executive director of THE WASHINGTON TIMES Photo Agency Victoria Yokota, President Hirogatsu Ota and Vice-President Togashi Takayoshi of the Summit Council for World Strategy of Japan and others.

Present there were Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the Reunification Policy Committee of the SPA [Supreme People's Assembly]; Yi Chong-hyok, senior councillor of the Reunification Policy Committee of the SPA; Song Ho-kyong, vice minister of foreign affairs and director of the Disarmament and Peace Institute of the DPRK; O Mun-han, vice chairman of the Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

The guests warmly congratulated President Kim Il-song on his birthday and wished him good health and long life.

President Kim Il-song expressed thanks for this and conversed with them in a cordial and friendly atmosphere.

He invited the guests to a luncheon.

Canada's Schreyer Comments

SK1804111494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1024 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—Former Governor-General of Canada Edward Schreyer on a visit to Korea told a press conference here on April 15 that the reports of the West about Korea were distorted and the impressions he got from his current visit were so deep that they were beyond wordy description.

"What I have seen in your country is quite different from what I have heard through the Western media," he said, and continued:

"While staying in your country, I have been deeply impressed by the fact that the Korean people live with smiles and enjoy happiness to the full unlike what I have heard in the West.

"Your people live with their own aim and have successfully built their country with industrious and creative activities.

"The grand and beautiful architectures built by your people made me think a great deal.

"The wonderful architectures are rich in content and peculiar in architectural beauty, to say nothing of the external style.

"We do not want the outbreak of a war in your country but hope that the Korean people will live in peace"

Visitors Cite West's 'False Propaganda'

SK1804112394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1039 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang-visiting group of former heads of state and government and politicians of different countries, after going round various places of Korea, refuted the false propaganda of Western countries and South Korean rulers about the DPRK.

The former governor-general of Canada, Edward Schreyer, after visiting the Panmunjom cooperative farm in the demilitarized zone along the military demarcation line said he has learned at first hand there that the DPRK does not build arms, contrary to so many false reports about it in the West now.

He further said: Here on the spot, I found every house is occupied, unlike I was told in Seoul. Today I called at any house I wanted and saw it is occupied. It is a sheer lie to say that nobody lives in this place.

The executive director of the Summit Council for World Peace, Antonio Betancourt, said after going round the farm that they were told in the South that nobody except army soldiers lives in this place. "But what I have seen here is quite contrary to what I heard there," he said.

He said those who don't want peace are now making distorted reports about the reality of Korea. "The looks of Pyongyang will be introduced as it is to many countries by the journalists of different countries included in the visiting group," he added.

Vice-president of the Summit Council for World Strategy of Japan, Togashi Takayoshi, said he has clearly learned through the current Korea visit that the Korean people earnestly desire peace.

Ex-president of Costa Rica, Rodrigo Carazo Odio, who is heading the visiting group, said after inspecting the West Sea barrage that he didn't think the Korean people built this great structure to destroy something.

Foreign Former Leaders Tour Kaesong

SK1804114094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1053 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—The Pyongyang-visiting group of former heads of state and government and politicians from different countries toured Kaesong Municipality on Sunday.

Keenly experiencing the tragedy of national division of the Korean people, they expressed their resolution to strive for a peaceful reunification of Korea.

They, participants in the second meeting of the summit council for world peace, were to visit Pyongyang through Panmunjom late March. Owing to the obstructions of the South Korean authorities, however, they had to make a long detour, though this place is no more than 70 km away from Seoul.

After inspecting Panmunjom, former President of Costa Rica Rodrigo Carazo Odio who is leading the group said he had flown to Central America and came here by making a detour of 35,000 km through the United States and China because passing through Panmunjom was not allowed. "This makes us feel sick at heart," he added.

Former Governor-General of Canada Edward Schreyer said he learned at first hand that Korea is not building armament, contrary to what he had heard in the West. "Your country wants peace, not a war, and is making a great progress in socialist construction," he noted.

William Taylor, vice-president of the Center for Strategic and International Studies of the United States, said that the continued tense military confrontation along the Military Demarcation Line may create an unpredictable situation with an accidental incident and so, the DPRK and the United States must have further talks and find a solution to the matters, promoting mutual understanding through talks. After seeing the concrete wall built by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities in the area south of the Military Demarcation Line bisecting one country, one nation and families into two, the guests said they learned well who was the very one blocking the reunification of Korea.

Noting that the concrete wall is a very torturous one for the Korean people who are suffering the sorrow of the division for nearly 50 years, Antonio Betancourt, executive director of the Summit Council for World Peace, stressed that the Summit Council for World Peace will strive to achieve the reunification of the country, the final aim of the Korean people, through international efforts.

Togashi Takayoshi, vice-president of the Summit Council for World Strategy of Japan, said: "To build even a barrier dividing one nation shows that the South Korean authorities pay no heed to the nation."

That day the guests went round the Panmunjom cooperative farm. Noting the South Korean rulers' propaganda that people do not live here is a sheer lie, the guests said in unison that they could see at first hand the people in the North taking part in peaceful construction, not in war preparations.

Visitors Tour Capital

SK1904074794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0443 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang-visiting group of former heads of state and government and politicians of different countries led by ex-President of Costa Rica Rodrigo Carazo Odio, staying in Korea, visited the Mansudae Art Studio on April 18.

They saw wonderful porcelains, embroidery articles, engravings and Korean paintings created under the wise guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

At the end of the visit, the head of the group wrote in the visitor's book that the studio is a comprehensive creative base showing how excellent the Korean art and fine arts are.

Former Prime Minister of Egypt Aziz Sedky said all the works of the studio fully show the Korean art which is very excellent and charming.

The group visited the Pyongyang metro.

After the visit Mark P. Barry, director of Research of the Summit Council for World Peace, said this metro is the most beautiful, excellent and clean in the world.

Noting that the world knows little about this, he said he was pleased to hear that the metro would be extended in the future.

He expressed the belief that it would be not a long time before the whole world come to know what a developed country Korea is.

Earlier, the guests visited the Tower of the Chuche Idea and the Korean Central History Museum.

Kim Yong-sun Hosts Banquet

SK1904071894 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—A banquet was given in Pyongyang on the evening of April 18 for the Pyongyang-visiting group of former heads of state and government and politicians of different countries on a visit to Korea.

Invited there were head of the group Rodrigo Carazo Odio, ex-president of Costa Rica, and members of the group, former Governor-General of Canada Edward Schreyer, former Prime Minister of Egypt Aziz Sedky, former member of the Parliament of France and member of the European Parliament Pierro Ceyrac, senior vice-president of the Center for Strategic and International Studies of the United States William Taylor, senior vice-president of the CNN International Eason Jordan, executive director of the Summit Council for World Peace Antonio Betancourt, director of research of the Summit Council for World Peace Mark P. Barry, former Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights of the United States James Zumwalt, Managing Editor of the WASHINGTON TIMES Josette Shiner, Executive Director of the WASHINGTON TIMES Photo Agency Victoria Yokota, President Hirogatsu Ota and Vice-President Togashi Takayoshi of the Summit Council for World Strategy of Japan, and other members and journalists accompanying them.

Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and head of the group Rodrigo Carazo Odio made speeches at the banquet.

Group Ends Visit

SK1904131794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1054 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—The Pyongyang-visiting group of former heads of state and government and politicians from various countries headed by ex-President of Costa Rica Rodrigo Carazo Odio left here today, wrapping up its 8-day visit to Korea at the invitation of the SPA [Supreme People's Assembly] Reunification Policy Committee.

The journalists accompanying the visiting-group also left.

The visiting-group was seen off at the airport by Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the Reunification Policy Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly; Yi Chong-hyok, senior councillor of the Reunification Policy Committee of the SPA; Song Ho-kyong, vice-minister of foreign affairs and director of the Disarmament and Peace Institute of the DPRK; O Mun-han, vice-chairman of the Korean Society for Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries; and other officials concerned.

Foreign Party Delegations Wrap Up Visit

Kim Il-song Arranges Banquet

SK1804041294 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song arranged a grand banquet for the visiting high-level delegations of different countries and delegations of overseas compatriots.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and president of the DPRK, arranged a grand banquet at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall on 15 April for the visiting high-level delegations of different countries and delegations of overseas compatriots.

When President Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and leader, and his wife, accompanied by heads of foreign high-level delegations appeared in the banquet hall amid the playing of the welcome music, all the participants warmly welcomed him with loud applause.

Invited to the banquet were the delegation of the National Democratic Congress of Ghana headed by General Secretary Huudu Yahaya; the delegation of Socialist Party of Kazakhstan headed by Co-chairman P.V. Svoik; the delegation of the Workers' Party of Ireland headed by General Secretary Pat Quearney; the delegation of the Workers' Party of Turkey headed by General Secretary Yalsin Buyukdagli; the delegation of the Liaoning Provincial Committee of the CPC headed by Secretary Gu Jinchi; the delegation of the October 8 Revolutionary Movement of Brazil headed by Sergio Rubens, member of the Political Commission and secretary of the October 8 Revolutionary Movement of Brazil; Maria Lazar, vice president of the Socialist Workers' Party of Romania; Vengerovsky, vice chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party and deputy speaker of the State Duma of the Federation Council of Russia; the delegation of the Khavarovsk Territorial Committee and the Amur Regional Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation; the delegation of the Japan-Korea Friendship Data Center headed by Chairman Oe Yoshiyuki, president of the S.B.B. Company, Limited, of Japan; Inoue Shuhachi, director general of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea; Alexandr Jarikov, secretary general of the World Federation of Trade Unions; the delegation of the secretariat of the Society for the Study of the Chuche Idea of Japanese Teachers, headed by Yokobori Masagazu, adviser and secretary general of the Japan Liaison Council of Societies for the Study of Kim Chong-il's works; the delegation of the Kim Chong-suk Kindergarten in Dalandzadgad City, Omnogov Province, Mongolia; the delegation of the Karachi Branch of the Pakistan-Korea Friendship Association headed by Abdul Razak Molai; Y.O. Maxim, chairman of the Mongolian Study Center of the Chuche Idea; Xu Wenbo, vice minister of the PRC Ministry of Culture; Abdul Rahman Abdul Farah, vice minister of culture of Egypt; Ssyassi Sereyvuth, deputy secretary of state for Ministry of Art of the Kingdom of Cambodia; and Ogasawara Mitsuko, head of a delegation of the Japan-Korea music and art interchange society.

Comrade O Chin-u, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and minister of the People's Armed Forces; Comrade Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and premier of the Administration Council; Comrades Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol, and

Kim Yong-chu, vice presidents and members of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee; Vice President Kim Pyong-sik, chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party; Comrade Kim Yong-nam, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee, vice premier of the Administration Council, and foreign minister; Comrade Yang Hyong-sop, candidate member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Administration; Comrades Kim Chung-nin, Hwang Chang-yop, and Kim Yong-sun, secretaries of the WPK Central Committee; Comrades Kim Pok-sin, Kim Chang-chu, Kim Yun-hyok, Kim Hwan, and Chang Chol, vice premiers of the Administration Council; Comrade Yun Ki-pok, chairman of the Economic Policy Committee of the Central People's Committee; Comrade Pak Nam-ki, chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administrative and Economic Committee; Yu Mi-yong, chairman of the Chondoist Chongu Party Central Committee; Kang Yong-sop, chairman of the Korean Christians Federation; Pak Tae-ho, chairman of the Korean Buddhists Federation; Chang Chae-choi, chairman of the Korean Roman Catholic Association; responsible functionaries of the party, power organs, central organs, and public organizations; generals of the Korean People's Army; anti-Japanese revolutionary fighters; and functionaries concerned were present at the banquet.

Also present were the congratulatory group of Koreans in Japan celebrating 15 April led by Yi Chin-kyu, first vice chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan; the delegation of old cadres of Chongnyon led by Paek Chong-won, chairman of the Sports Federation of Koreans in Japan, and other delegations of Chongnyon; Choe Hong-hui, president of the International Taekwondo Federation; and congratulatory groups and overseas compatriots from different regions and organizations.

The banquet began with the playing of the national anthem.

Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the WPK Central Committee and premier of the Administration Council, made a speech at the banquet.

After this, Huudu Yahaya, general secretary of the National Democratic Congress of Ghana, made a speech.

Lastly, Yi Chin-kyu, first vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan, also made a speech.

The Mansudae Art Troupe gave a performance at the banquet.

The banquet proceeded in a warm atmosphere filled with a feeling of friendship.

Kang Song-san Speaks at Banquet

SK1604044594 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Speech by Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) and premier of the Administration Council, at a banquet arranged by DPRK President Kim Il-song at the Kumsusan Assembly Hall for the foreign delegations and delegations of overseas Koreans on 15 April—read by announcer]

[Text] Comrades and respected foreign guests:

Today, all the people across the nation, with infinite joy and a sense of boundless admiration, are grandly celebrating the great leader's birthday as the greatest auspicious holiday of the nation. We feel it an utmost honor and joy to be in the presence of high-level delegations and goodwill missions of various countries, and delegations of overseas compatriots with the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song in attendance.

Authorized by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, and on behalf of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee and the government of the republic, I warmly welcome and extend my deep thanks to the foreign party delegations, foreign goodwill missions, and friends who are here in our country to join in the joy of our people on the occasion of our nation's auspicious April holiday. In addition, I warmly welcome and give fervent fraternal greetings to the congratulatory delegations and figures of overseas compatriots from different regions and organizations who came here to deliver unanimous greetings from overseas compatriots to the great leader.

Since he embarked on the road of revoluion, the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song has victoriously led the Korean revolution with his outstanding and tested leadership and tireless efforts of devotion for a long time. In doing so, he performed immortal exploits for the country, the revolution, the times, and history.

Even today, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song—with extraordinary wisdom, excelled leadership, and lofty popular traits—is vigorously leading our people's struggle for socialist construction and the national reunification on a correct road of victory, and is directing big efforts for the country's ever-lasting prosperity.

Thanks to the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song's outstanding and tested leadership, our people are powerfully demonstrating the superiority of the popular mass-centered socialism of our own style; are effecting a constant upswing in socialist construction; and are valiantly advancing toward the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and the independent and peaceful reunification of the country without the slightest vacillation under the complex and difficult conditions created by the continued challenges and obstructions by the imperialists and reactionaries.

Independence, peace, and friendship are basic doctrines in the foreign policy our party and republic's government have consistently carried through.

Our party and republic's government, as in the past, will invariably and consistently implement the foreign policy of independence, peace and friendship, and thus actively contribute to the peace and progress of mankind and the world's cause of independence.

At this meaningful place filled with a sense of boundless admiration and warm friendship for the great leader, I propose a toast to our fatherland's everlasting prosperity, to our nation's eternal happiness, to national reunification, and to the completion of the chuche revolutionary cause.

I also propose a toast to the long life and good health of Comrade Kim Il-song, the great leader of our party and people, who is observing the 82d anniversary of his birth; to the health of delegations of foreign parties of various countries; and to the health of foreign comrades and friends who came to congratulate the auspicious holiday of the nation.

Deliver Gifts for Kim Chong-il

SK1504110394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1047 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 15 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received gifts from the delegations the Liaoning Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China, the October 8 Revolutionary Movement of Brazil, the secretariat of the Society for the Study of the Chuche Idea of Japanese teachers, the Kim Chong-suk Kindergarten in Dalandzadgad City, Omnogov Province, Mongolia, and Maria Lazar, vice president of the Socialist Workers' Party of Romania, and Alexandr Jarikov, secretary general of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

The gifts were handed to officials concerned.

Gifts were also presented to him by Choe Hong-hui, president of the International Taekwon-do Federation, Yi Yong-pin, chairman of the Association of Korean Christians for National Reunification in Germany, and Rev. Cho Tok-chon, director of the Korea Institute of William Carey University, the U.S., staying in the socialist homeland.

Offer Gifts for Kim Chong-il

SK1504110494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1048 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 15 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il received gifts from the National Executive Committee of the National Democratic Congress of Ghana, the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Turkey, the Maritime Territorial Committee, the Khavarovsk Territorial Committee and the Amur Regional Committee of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation.

The gifts were handed to officials concerned.

Attend Taekwon-do Exhibition

SK1804053494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0514 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—Foreign party delegations staying in Korea saw a Taekwon-do demonstration at the Taekwon-do Hall on April 17.

Invited to see the demonstration were the delegation of the National Democratic Congress of Ghana headed by its General Secretary Huudu Yahaya, the delegation of the Socialist Party of Kazakhstan headed by its co-chairman P.V. Svoik, the delegation of the Workers' Party of Ireland headed by its General Secretary Pat Quearney, General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Turkey Yalsin Buyukdagli, and other party delegations.

Seeing the demonstration together with the foreign guests were Kim Chung-nin, secretary, and Kim Yang-kon, vice director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and officials concerned.

The demonstration was acclaimed by the spectators for its high technique and might.

Kang Song-san, Chang Chol at Show

SK1404051794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0451 GMT 14 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 14 (KCNA)—Korean cadres saw a circus show by acrobats from different countries participating in the 12th April Spring Friendship Art Festival at the Pyongyang Circus Theatre on Wednesday evening.

The show was seen by Premier Kang Song-san, Vice-premier and Minister of Culture and Art and Chairman of the Festival Organizing Committee Chang Chol, Minister of Finance Yun Ki-chong, Chairman of the State Commission of Physical Culture and Sports Pak Myong-chol, other officials concerned and working people and artistes in the city.

The performers put on stage colorful numbers including "aerial plastic stunt," "plastic trio," "hand feats," "the wedding day of a girl," "spear revolving" and "aerial flight on trapeze" which were acclaimed by the audience.

A floral basket was conveyed to the acrobats for their successful performance.

Festival Participants Feted

SK1604045194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 16 (KCNA)—The Administration Council hosted a reception Friday for the foreign artistes and Korean artistes abroad, participants in the 12th April Spring Friendship Art Festival on the occasion of April 15.

Present there were Politburo member of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and Premier of the Administration Council Kang Song-san, Politburo member of the C.C., the WPK and Vice-President Pak Song-chol, Vice-Premier of the Administration Council, Minister of Culture and Art and Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Festival Chang Chol and other officials concerned.

Speeches were made there.

Kim Il-song Attends Performances

SK1804051294 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0452 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 17 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song saw joint performances given by artistes of different countries participating in the 12th April Spring Friendship Art Festival.

When he appeared in the auditorium amid the playing of the welcome music, stormy cheers of "hurrah!" and thunderous applause shook the hall.

The performances were seen by Kang Song-san, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and premier of the Administration Council, and Yi Chong-ok, Pak Song-chol and Kim Yong-chu, Politburo members of the WPK Central Committee and vice-presidents, Kim Pyong-sik, vice-president and chairman of the Central Committee of the Korean Social Democratic Party, and other cadres and working people in the city.

Among the audience were Yi Chin-kyu, first vice-chairman of the Central Standing Committee of the General Association of Korean residents in Japan (Chongnyon), Choe Hong-hui, president of the International Taekwon-do Federation, and other Korean figures overseas.

Invited to see the performances were foreign guests on a visit to Korea, including Huudu Yahaya, general secretary of the National Democratic Congress of Ghana; P.V. Svoik, co-chairman of the Socialist Party of Kazakhstan; and Pat Quearney, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Ireland; and foreign diplomatic envoys here.

The performers included international and national concours prize winners of different countries and famous artistes who came with boundless feelings of respect for and trust in President Kim Il-song and warm sentiments of friendship toward the Korean people, and Korean artistes from overseas and at home.

They extended the highest glory and warmest congratulations to President Kim Il-song on his birthday and gave an impressive artistic representation of his immortal feats and greatness.

They also highly sang of their ardent reverence for the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who has exalted Korea, the homeland of chuche, and is victoriously advancing the socialist cause with his clairvoyance, matchless grit and rare leadership ability.

They well showed the sacred struggle, creative labour and customs of different nations who have turned out to accomplish the cause of global independence.

The performances were highly acclaimed by the audience for their high ideological and artistic value.

President Kim Il-song sent floral baskets to the performers in congratulation of their successful performances.

He met foreign artists and delegations of Korean artists from overseas who had participated in the performances, and delegations of Chongnyon and the delegation of the Chinese Ministry of Culture and foreign diplomatic envoys here and posed for souvenir pictures with them.

Performers Tour Pyongyang

SK1804111394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1028 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—Artistes of foreign countries who have participated in the 12th April Spring Friendship Art Festival visited various places during their stay in Pyongyang.

They visited Mangyongdae, the cradle of revolution, where the great leader President Kim Il-song was born.

With deep emotion and pleasure of visiting the sacred place of revolution, they enthusiastically sang in front of the old home the songs "Song of General Kim Il-song" and "Let Us Sing of Spring Holiday of April" carrying boundless respect and reverence for President Kim Il-song who is making an undying contribution to accomplishing the cause of global independence.

They went to the tower of the chuche idea, the arch of triumph, the three revolutions exhibition and others.

Vice-minister of Culture of Egypt Abdul Rahman Abdul Farah, said the tower of the chuche idea was a monumental edifice which has been built so splendidly. He went on:

Through the visit, I have come to know well where is the source of the Korean people's fortitude.

It is because the Korean people are firmly armed with the chuche idea.

I wish greater success to the struggle of the Korean people who are advancing forward under the banner of the chuche idea.

The artistes appreciated the mass gymnastic display "Great Victory of Rural Theses" and participated in the evening dancing party of youth and students in Pyongyang and celebrations of April 15.

Friendship Art Festival Closes

SK1804114194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1045 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—The 12th April spring friendship art festival which opened with splendor here on April 9 closed today.

Present at the closing ceremony held at the February 8 House of Culture were Kang Song-san, Politburo member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and premier of the Administration Council, officials concerned and working people and men of culture and art in the city.

Also present were foreign artistes, Korean artistes overseas and foreign diplomatic envoys and embassy officials here.

Certificates of merit and prizes of the festival were awarded to art troupes and artistes that proved successful in the festival.

Letters of thanks to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were adopted at the ceremony on behalf of the participants in the festival.

Chang-Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council, minister of culture and art and chairman of the organizing committee of the festival, addressed the closing ceremony.

He said that through the festival, the participants had made a sizable contribution to strengthening friendship and solidarity among countries and nations and making their cultural cooperation and ties closer in accordance with the noble idea of independence, peace and friendship and enriching the treasurehouse of culture and art of mankind.

"During the festival, artistes from different countries presented many works revering the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il to delight the Korean people and make the April holiday more significant and auspicious," he said.

The ceremony was followed by a closing performance of the festival.

Prizes Awarded at Festival

SK1904035194 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1518 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—Prize diplomas, money and articles were awarded to the art groups and artistes of different countries who displayed excellent skills of art at the 12th April Spring Friendship Art Festival, which took place here from April 9 to 18.

In the team event, the diploma and cup were awarded to the Art Group of China, the Russian Folk Song and Dance Group, the Kazakh Art Group, the Mongolian Art Group and the Art Group of Koreans in Japan.

The Donbas Dance Group of Ukraine was awarded a special prize.

In the individual event, diplomas, money and articles were given to 30 singers from Russia, China, Yugoslavia, Malaysia, Romania, Cuba, Syria, the Netherlands, etc., to nine instrumental musicians from Mongolia, Moldova, etc., to five dancers from the Art Group of Koreans in Japan, the Art Group of the International Federation of Koreans for Reunification, etc., and to three conductors from Colombia, etc.

The prizes were also awarded to 16 pieces of songs sung by artistes from Vietnam, Belarus, Italy, the art group of Koreans in China, etc., to five pieces of instrumental music performed by French, Dutch and other art groups and 14 items of dances performed by Nigerian, Egyptian, Cambodian and other art groups.

In the circus event, eight items performed by Chinese, Moroccan, Bulgarian and other acrobats received prizes.

In the creation event, diplomas and articles were awarded to the artiste of Bangladesh who wrote and composed the song "Ode to the Great Leader," the artiste of the trio of the Congo who wrote and composed the song "Happiness of Mankind" and the artiste of the Kazakh art group who wrote and composed the song "Thinking of Comrade Kim Il-song."

Chang Chol Attends Gathering

SK1904074994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—A friendly gathering between the participants in the 12th April Spring Friendship Art Festival and artistes in Pyongyang took place in Pyongyang on the evening of April 18.

Present on invitation were foreign artistes and overseas Korean artistes who had participated in the festival.

Present were Chang Chol, vice-premier of the Administration Council and minister of culture and art and chairman of the organising committee of the festival, officials concerned and artistes in the city.

The participants exchanged impressive and emotional stories during the festival and achievements and experiences they have gained in the work to create popular and revolutionary culture and art and spent the evening with songs and dances.

Participants Thank Kim Chong-il

SK1904122494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1037 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il on April 18 received a letter of thanks from the participants in the 12th April spring friendship art festival which had taken place in Pyongyang.

The letter says the festival was a beautiful stage of friendship and unity in which they loudly sang as songs of praise of the times the desire and aspirations of mankind to live happily in a free and peaceful world under the noble idea of independence, peace and friendship.

Through a visit to beautiful Korea, it goes on, we have got deep impressions, great confidence and inspiration from the indomitable spirit of the Korean people confidently advancing along the road of independence continuously under the banner of socialism, firmly united behind Your Excellency Kim Chong-il.

They said in the letter that during their stay in Korea they have come to know well that under the wise leadership of His Excellency Kim Chong-il the traditions of national culture and art are being preserved and inherited successfully and many literary and art works of eternal vitality and monumental significance have been created to stir up all the people in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

They stressed that they would actively participate in the future, too, in the April spring friendship art festival under the noble idea of the festival and continue to beautifully decorate it as a great international art festival stage.

They wished His Excellency Kim Chong-il good health and long life.

Performers Send Thanks to Kim Il-song

SK1904104794 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1025 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song on April 18 received a letter of thanks from the participants in the 12th April Spring Friendship Art Festival which was held in Pyongyang.

This festival was a great international art gathering in which the artistes of different countries exchanged achievements and experiences with each other and further developed interchanges and friendly relations, says the letter.

The letter notes that they were privileged to participate in the grand celebrations on the 82nd birthday of President Kim Il-song and that it is a great glory that the president personally saw their performances and highly praised them.

The letter stresses during their stay in Korea they directly experienced the passion and fighting will of the Korean people who have brought about world-startling reforms in all fields including culture and art under the wise leadership of President Kim Il-song and the Workers' Party of Korea.

The letter wishes President Kim Il-song good health and long life.

Kim Il-song Sends Greetings to Syrian President

SK1604043694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0409 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 16 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic, on the occasion of the 48th anniversary of the independence of Syria.

President Kim Il-song in the message said that after the independence the Syrian Arab people have made great strides in the struggle to defend the sovereignty of the country and national dignity and build a new prosperous society.

He noted that the Korean people rejoice as over their own over the success made by the Syrian Arab people and always express firm solidarity with the efforts of the president and the Syrian Arab people for the independent development of the country and a fair and comprehensive solution of the Middle-East issue.

He expressed the belief that the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation existing between the two countries would grow stronger and develop day by day.

Kim Il-song Notes Zimbabwe's 14th Anniversary

SK1704090394 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0842 GMT 17 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 17 (KCNA)—Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on April 15 sent a message of greetings to Robert G. Mugabe, first secretary and president of the Central Committee of the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front and president of the Republic of Zimbabwe, on the occasion of the 14th founding anniversary of the republic.

In the message President Kim Il-song said he was glad of the great progress made by the Zimbabwean people in their efforts to promote national unity and develop the economy under the correct leadership of the president after the founding of the republic.

He wished the president and people of Zimbabwe great success in the work for the independent development and prosperity of the country, and expressed the belief that the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries would continue to grow stronger and develop in the future.

Observance of Kim Il-song Birthday Continues

Flowers From Russian, PRC Attaches

SK1404001994 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2251 GMT 13 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 13 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song was presented with a floral basket and a congratulatory letter today by the military attaches corps here on the occasion of his birthday.

The floral basket and congratulatory letter were handed to Minister of People's Armed Forces O Chin-u by military attache of the Russian Embassy Georgiy Mariyasov who is the doyen of the Military Attaches Corps.

A floral basket was presented to President Kim Il-song by the delegation of the Chinese People's Volunteers of the Korean-Chinese side to the Military Armistice Commission on the occasion of his birthday.

Head of the delegation Zheng Daogen handed the floral basket to Minister of People's Armed Forces O Chin-u.

Music, Dance Performance Held

SK1804225494 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 18 (KCNA)—Pyongyang artistes gave a music and dance performance at the February 8 House of Culture today to celebrate the 15th of April.

Invited to see the performance were the visiting General Secretary of the National Democratic Congress of Ghana Huudu Yahaya, the Co-chairman of the Socialist Party of Kazakhstan P.V. Svoik, the General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Ireland Pat Quearney, the General Secretary of the Workers' Party of Turkey Yalsin Buyukdagli and other foreign party leaders, high-level delegations and delegates and the members of the Pyongyang-visiting group of former heads of state and government and politicians of different countries including ex-president of Costa Rica Rodrigo Carazo Odio, former Governor-General of Canada Edward Schreyer and former Prime Minister of Egypt Aziz Sedky.

Kang Song-san, Politburo member of the C.C. [Central Committee], the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and premier of the Administration Council; Yi Chong-ok and Pak Song-chol, Politburo members of the C.C., the WPK and vice-presidents; vice-President Kim Pyong-sik, chairman of the C.C., the Korean Social Democratic Party; and other senior party and government officials were present.

The performance included the orchestra and chorus "Long Live Generalissimo Kim Il-song," the dance "The Snow Is Falling," the female folk quintet "The Day When He Came," the female chorus "We Will Live Always With the Leader" and other colorful numbers.

The performers vividly depicted the immortal revolutionary exploits of the great leader President Kim Il-song, the great honor and happiness of the Korean people blessed with the leaders and their firm faith and will to carry the cause of socialism to accomplishment under the guidance of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Flowers, Letter Come From Guyana

SK1904054094 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0420 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received a floral basket and congratulatory letter from Cheddi Bharrat Jagan, president of the cooperative Republic of Guyana, on his birthday.

They were handed to the Korean Embassy in Guyana on April 15.

Functions Held Overseas

SK1904104694 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1018 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—Functions were held in different countries in celebration of the birthday of the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Celebration meetings were held at the power designing station of the Ministry of Primary Industry of Cuba and Namuronge Agricultural Research Centre of Uganda.

The speakers at the meetings said that President Kim Il-song embarked upon the road of the revolution in his early years and set forth a chuche-based revolutionary line and has wisely led the Korean people, thus converting Korea into a modern socialist country independent in politics, self-sustaining in economy and self-reliant in national defence.

Noting that the Korean people owe all their achievements to the wise leadership of President Kim Il-song, the speakers said he has been devoting his whole life to the freedom and happiness of the people. DPRK photo exhibitions and film weeks, film shows and photo explanatory meetings were hosted by the National Association of Writers and Artists of Peru, the Aburime-Changsu Oriental Diagnostic Hospital, Ltd., Benin, the Egyptian National Film Centre, the Maleice Agricultural Cooperative in Chibuto County, Gaza Province, Mozambique, and the Pathet Lao News Agency of Laos.

Greetings Sent From Abroad

SK1904074594 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0423 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Pyongyang, April 19 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea received congratulatory messages from foreign state leaders on his birthday.

They came from Zimbabwean President Robert G. Mugabe, Guinean President Lansana Conte, Ghanaian President Jerry John Rawlings, Moroccan King Hassan II, St. Lucian Prime Minister John George Melvin Compton, Belize Prime Minister Manuel Esquivel, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of Dominica Mary Eugenia Charles, Jordanian King Hussein I, Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Maltese President Ugo Mifsud Bonnici, President of the Presidential Council of Yemen 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, Cambodian King Norodom Sihanouk and head of state and Chairman of the National Provisional Ruling Council of Sierra Leone Valentine Esegragbo Melvin Ytrasser.

The messages extend warmest congratulations to President Kim Il-song and wish him good health and a long life.

They express firm solidarity with the Korean people in the struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and the belief that the friendly and cooperative relations between the Korean people and their peoples will grow stronger.

South Korea

U.S., Japan 'Examine' Sanctions Against DPRK

SK1904080894 Seoul YONHAP in English 0734 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Tokyo, April 19 (YONHAP)—The United States has hinted that if North Korea refuses to allow additional nuclear checks before the end of April, it will go its own way to impose sanctions on the Stalinist state even before the United Nations adopts any resolution and seek Japanese cooperation in that case, the SANKEI SHIMBUN reported Tuesday.

Quoting both Japanese and American diplomatic sources, the newspaper said the idea had been put to Foreign Minister Tsutomu Hata by U.S. Vice President Al Gore during last week's meeting in Marrakech, Morocco, to sign the Uruguay Round trade accord.

Gore, noting that North Korea's nuclear program has a greater impact on Japan's security than his own country's, suggested that the United States might impose sanctions on its own if North Korea failed to permit additional IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) inspections of its suspected nuclear sites by the end of April, the report said.

Foreign Minister Hata told the vice president that Japan would examine the plan but did not give him an immediate answer in view of the need for the ruling coalition to first coordinate policy differences among its member parties in naming a new prime minister to replace the outgoing Morihiro Hosokawa.

Entering the equation is a demand made by Shinseito, a major party in the coalition, which called for strong measures Monday to deal with the North Korean nuclear issue, it added. But a basic strategy proposed by the Nihon Shinto, another party of the coalition, urges "responsible Japanese action according to U.N. policy" in handling the issue: This would preclude Japanese cooperation in any U.S. sanctions imposed before U.N. action.

Shinseito's Ichiro Ozawa, a behind-the-scenes strongman in the coalition, met Foreign Minister Hata—a likely bet to succeed Hosokawa as prime minister—at the latter's office on Tuesday, raising speculation that they discussed dealing with North Korea when Hata becomes prime minister.

Gallucci Talk With Foreign Minister Reported

SK1904082394 Seoul YONHAP in English 0815 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 19 (YONHAP)—South Korean and U.S. negotiators agreed Tuesday that North Korea should act as soon as possible in allowing additional nuclear inspections to meet an early-May deadline.

Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu, at a working luncheon with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Robert Gallucci, stressed that the immediate task is getting Pyongyang to agree to further checks by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The two sides agreed that the ball is in Pyongyang's court, predicting that a reaction will come soon since the celebrations for supreme leader Kim Il-song's 82nd birthday have just ended.

IAEA Director-General Hans Blix is due to report to the U.N. Security Council on North Korea's nuclear program in early May, and officials here say that unlike previous monitoring activities, this deadline doesn't allow for much leeway.

"A couple of weeks is the most we can give North Korea next month," said one official on condition of anonymity. "Either Pyongyang accepts the IAEA team by then or faces U.N. action."

"There isn't much time," he emphasized.

Han and Gallucci stressed the importance of inter-Korean dialogue in defusing the nuclear crisis and promised to work together for successful talks between the two Koreas, the officials said.

Reaction to Talks With U.S. on Nuclear Issue

SK1904085894

[Editorial Report] Seoul vernacular newspapers on 19 April react to the talks on the North Korean nuclear issue between Robert Galiucci, U.S. assistant secretary of state, and ROK officials, including Nuclear Ambassador Kim Sam-hun, held in Seoul on 18 April.

The conservative CHOSON ILBO carries a 1,000-word article by reporter Pak Tu-sik on page 3 which welcomes the "simple and clear" demand for North Korea's allowance of additional nuclear inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, made in the recent Seoul talks between the ROK and the United States. The article reports: "It seems that, for the time being, the United States and the ROK will concentrate their efforts on creating an atmosphere for North Korea to allow additional inspections by the IAEA."

The article reports that "the United States will strongly demand that South and North Korea hold a dialogue on implementing the declaration on denuclearization of the Korean peninsula" and conduct bilateral nuclear inspection after the third round of U.S.-North Korea talks, "which will likely be held in Geneva in May as soon as the IAEA inspection team enters North Korea if North Korea meets the IAEA demand."

The article also expects that "the South-North Joint Nuclear Control Committee will be held if the North Korea-IAEA and North Korea-U.S. dialogue is successfully held" and that "this will make progress in resolving the nuclear issue."

The moderate HANGUK ILBO carries a 400-word article by Chong Pyong-chin on page 1 which reports that in the 18 April talks, the ROK "asked the United States to propose a contact with North Korea first" and that the United States said it "will consider proposing to North Korea to hold a contact before the end of this week." The article concludes by noting that "it is highly possible for North Korea and the United States to hold a contact in New York sometime this week."

The left-leaning HANGYORE SINMUN carries a 900-word article by Pak Chong-mun on page 2 on the result of the talks between Robert Gallucci and ROK Government officials. While reporting that the ROK and the United States "failed to make any clear decision" on the nuclear issue, the South-North dialogue, and the U.S.-North Korea talks, the article notes as a "tangible result" of the talks that the ROK and U.S. authorities "have shared the view that the U.S.-North Korea talks and South-North dialogue should be promoted in a harmonious way of complementary cooperation." Pointing out the "inevitability of sharing a view on South-North dialogue between the ROK and the United States" because of the linkage between South-North dialogue and the U.S. interests, the article stresses additional agreements on South-North dialogue must be reached between the ROK and the United States if North Korea allows additional nuclear inspections.

The article expects no tangible result for resolving the nuclear issue from U.S. Secretary of Defense William Perry's upcoming visit to the ROK, noting the "flexible situation" regarding this issue.

The moderate CHUNGANG ILBO also carries reporter Kang Yong-chin's 1,000-word article expecting that a working-level contact will be held between the United States and North Korea before the end of this week. Citing an unidentified government official's remarks, the article reports that the United States will no longer allow North Korea to "attempt to stall for time" since, through repeated negotiations with North Korea, the United States is now able to easily grasp North Korea's intent.

Ministry on Issue of 'Discontinuing' Team Spirit

SK1704022394 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 17 Apr 94 p 2

[By Yu Yong-won]

[Text] The ROK Defense Ministry stated on 16 April that it would consider discontinuing the Team Spirit exercise if North Korea accepts [suyong] additional inspections from the International Atomic Energy Agency and if progress is made in resolving the nuclear issue. The Defense Ministry reportedly mapped out this plan because the government abandoned the plan on the exchange of special envoys.

Inspections Linked to Team Spirit Suspension

SK1704061294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0600 GMT 17 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 17 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the United States have decided to agree on suspending their joint military exercise "Team Spirit '94" and holding a third round of U.S.-North Korean high-level talks if Pyongyang lets additional IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] inspections of its nuclear facilities be successfully concluded, YONHAP learned on Sunday [17 April].

"The April 1 statement by the U.N. Security Council president on the North Korean nuclear problem reaffirmed that the U.S.-North Korean agreement reached on Feb. 25 in New York was still effective," a high-ranking government official said. "In view of this development, Seoul and Washington share the position that further U.S.-North Korean talks and suspension of the annual military drill are linked to more inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency."

Robert Gallucci, U.S. assistant secretary of State for political and military affairs, and Kim Sam-hun, ambassador for nuclear issue, are expected to reiterate their position when they hold a meeting here Monday [18 April].

Regarding Team Spirit in particular, U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry, who will soon to visit South Korea, and his South Korean counterpart are expected to agree that the military maneuver will be suspended only after they get hard evidence that North Korea did not divert nuclear materials to making weapons.

"Dropping the demand for inter-Korean special envoy exchange is part of the preconditions set in the New York agreement," the official said. "The remaining conditions still hold good."

President Emphasizes U.S. Alliance to Bush

SK1604071294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0706 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—President Kim Yong-sam, accusing North Korea of taking every opportunity to own nuclear weapons Saturday, stressed close South Korea-U.S. cooperation and international coordination in resolving the problem.

Meeting former U.S. President George Bush on a visit here, Kim said the U.N. Security Council has to act if transparency is not guaranteed on North Korea's nuclear program, spokesman Chu Ton-Sik said.

Bush came to Seoul to attend the 43rd annual conference of the Pacific-Asia Travel Association (PATA).

Bush agreed that the two countries must maintain firm alliance in dealing with the North Korean situation. He warned they should not be fooled by North Korea's attempt to break the two countries apart during North Korea-U.S. dialogue, Chu said.

Bush commented that he saw the tension on the Korean peninsula was not as tense as he had thought when he was in the United States.

Kim accused "irresponsible" people of exaggerating the situation, Chu said.

Dissident Camp Protests Secretary Perry's Trip

SK1904083594 Seoul YONHAP in English 0827 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 19 (YONHAP)—Nearly 30 members of Chongukyonhap, an alliance of dissident activists for "democracy and national unification," demonstrated in front of the U.S. Embassy in central Seoul Tuesday morning to protest U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry's visit.

They delivered to the American Embassy a letter addressed to Perry, accusing Washington of "intentionally aggravating" tension on the Korean peninsula to benefit the U.S. defense industry and to sustain its world hegemony as the sole military power even though the Cold War is over.

They also called on Perry to drop his earlier remark warning of a war against North Korea, to withdraw immediately all Patriot missiles from South Korea and to suspend the "Team Spirit" military exercise permanently.

Meanwhile, Secretary Perry is slated to arrive here late Tuesday night, the Defense Ministry said.

Minister on 'Deadline' for DPRK Inspections

SK1704232394 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2205 GMT 17 Apr 94

[Report by Kim Chin-su from Brussels]

[Text] Foreign Minister Han Sung-chu announced that the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] set the deadline for North Korea's acceptance of additional nuclear inspections at mid-May and that just in case North Korea exceeds the deadline, the IAEA will soon report to the UN Security Council.

Foreign Minister Han, who is in Belgium, said: Although many experts believe North Korea will accept the additional nuclear inspections in late April, in early May, or in mid-May, the IAEA has set the deadline for North Korea's acceptance at around mid-May.

Foreign Minister Han said: The IAEA has not set a definite date in mid-May as its deadline for North Korea to accept the additional inspections, but it will report to the UN Security Council when it is believed North Korea has exceeded the deadline. As a result, the North Korean nuclear issue will again be handled by the UN Security Council, as was the case in the UN Security Council presidential statement.

DPRK General Interviewed on Site Inspection

SK1904004094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0016 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Washington, April 18 (YONHAP)—North Korea reiterated Monday that two alleged nuclear facilities at Yongbyon are military sites and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) has no right to inspect them.

"About the two military sites, there was no inspection allowed. It's not within the authority of the IAEA to inspect military sites," said Maj. Gen. Kim Yong-chol of the North Korean People's Army in an interview with America's Cable News Network (CNN).

In a dispatch from Pyongyang, CNN identified Gen. Kim simply as a senior military official. The taped interview was aired in the United States Monday night.

CNN also broadcast an interview with a former Costa Rican president who was visiting Pyongyang, presumably for North Korean President Kim Il-song's 82nd birthday last Friday.

Gen. Kim reiterated the North Korean position when CNN's Beijing correspondent, Mike Chinoy, asked why the Stalinist state refuses to let the IAEA inspect its facilities at the Yongbyon nuclear complex if it has no intention, capability or desire to develop nuclear weapons.

"Inspecting military sites is an issue that has to be dealt with between North and South Korea in the process of disarmament between the two sides," Kim said. "The authority the IAEA was given is to inspect peaceful nuclear facilities."

Asked if North Korea cooperates militarily with countries like Iran, Syria or Libya, Kim said, "that is a question which is directly related to the distortions and the bad rumors about our country which are all fabricated, made up, by the West."

North Korea, as an independent state, has a right to maintain multilateral relations including military cooperation with other countries.

"There is no limited scope in the cooperation," Kim said. "If it suits our interests, we do it. If it doesn't, we don't do it."

Seoul Not To Initiate Inter-Korean Dialogue

SK1604004094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0033 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—Seoul will not take the initiative in resuming the suspended inter-Korean dialogue as it has already dropped its demand for an envoy exchange as a precondition for Pyongyang to hold further high-level talks with Washington.

But if Pyongyang changes its mind and embraces inter-Korean dialogue during its talks with Washington, Seoul will come to the bargaining table with Pyongyang on condition that the meeting should first discuss North Korea's nuclear program.

A government official said over the weekend that because the South announced it would no longer seek to exchange special presidential envoys with the North, Seoul would not be the first to offer to resume the suspended dialogue with Pyongyang unless the latter showed a change in attitude.

If there is firm evidence of a change in the North's inter-Korean dialogue policy, the government will seek to resume the talks on the principle of keeping open the dialogue channel at all times, he added.

If the dialogue resumes, the agenda will focus on mutual nuclear inspections between South and North Korea under the declaration of denuclearization of the peninsula, with the government seeking high-level talks or a joint nuclear control commission meeting, he said.

Russia Excludes Intervention on DPRK Loggers

SK1604080294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0749 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—Russia hopes to handle resettlement of North Korean loggers in Siberia without intervention by an international organization, Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said Friday.

Radio Moscow quoted him as saying that his country will be strict with human rights protection requirements in renewing the logging contract with North Korea.

Moscow should consider applying Russia's domestic laws on all people living on Russian soil, and their human rights have to be guaranteed at maximum level, Kozyrev said according to Radio Moscow.

But he indicated his country was against intervention by a third party, saying Moscow plans to resolve the issue without participation by international organizations.

The Seoul Government announced Friday it will accept all North Korean loggers who wish to settle in South Korea. Some 100 North Koreans, virtually trapped inside logging camps in Siberia where escapees tell of rampant beating and near starvation, have asked to be sent to Seoul.

Seoul officials said they want to refer to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in arranging their resettlement.

The logging contract between Russia and North Korea was to expire at the end of last year but the two sides are still negotiating renewal after Moscow demanded human rights condition improvement inside the camps.

Next negotiation is expected in Moscow within first half of this year.

Seoul To Accept DPRK Loggers From Siberia

SK1604025194 Seoul YONHAP in English 0245 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—More than 100 North Korean loggers in Russia will be brought to South Korea, presidential spokesman Chu Ton-sik said Saturday [16 April].

Chu made the announcement one day after Seoul said it had decided to accept all escapees from North Korean logging camps in Siberia wishing to settle in South Korea.

"As a result, the government will bring to South Korea more than 100 North Korean loggers who have applied for settlement in South Korea at the South Korean Embassy in Moscow," Chu said.

Chu also said the government expects more escapees from North Korean logging camps to seek refuge in the South "since we have decided to accept them."

"Even in that situation, the government will accept all North Korean loggers with the exception of those with serious problems," he said.

Chu clarified that "those with serious problems" include criminals such as "infamous offenders."

The Seoul government understands, however, that most of the "infamous" offenders committed "crimes" because they were hungry and tried to steal food, he said.

The South Korean Embassy in Moscow has conducted an initial screening of the North Korean loggers seeking refuge in the South and found almost no "infamous offenders," Chu said.

Seoul Willing To Talk With DPRK About Loggers

SK1804004294 Seoul YONHAP in English 0028 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 18 (YONHAP)—The government plans to negotiate directly with North Korea if Pyongyang makes an issue out of Seoul's decision to resettle fleeing North Korean loggers in the South.

A senior government official said Sunday there was a strong possibility that North Korea would officially broach Seoul's decision last week to give North Korean loggers refuge in the South.

"In that case, the government plans to push direct negotiations with North Korea on this problem," he said.

An estimated 500 North Koreans are said to have escaped from Pyongyang-run logging camps in Siberia, many of whom are hiding in various parts of Russia to elude North Korean agents while seeking refuge in South Korea.

The official, who declined to be identified, noted that when many East Germans tried to escape to West Germany, the Bonn government solved the problem by negotiating directly with East Germany.

The government will cooperate with Russia and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in the process of settling the North Korean loggers in the South, he said.

But there is a possibility that North Korea, insisting the loggers are "criminals," will demand their repatriation. The government has decided to prepare for this eventuality by checking the background of all North Korean loggers applying for refuge in the South, he said.

In addition, the government will introduce a procedure allowing the UNHCR to confirm whether the loggers indeed want to leave their country or settle in nations other than South Korea, in order to prevent Pyongyang from leveling charges of kidnapping against Seoul, the official said.

DPRK Red Cross Urges Repatriation of Two Men

SK1904084694 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0800 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] The North Korean side sent a telephone message to our side on 19 April demanding the repatriation of Kim In-so and Ham Se-hwan, who have not converted from communism over a long period of time.

Yi Song-ho, acting chairman of the Central Committee of the North Korean Red Cross Society, North Korea sent a telephone message to Kang Yong-hun, chairman of the ROK National Red Cross, on 19 April, pointing out that for the South side to reject the North side's demand to repatriate the two men, which has happened on two occasions, runs counter to the humanitarian ideology of the Red Cross.

Today's message by North Korea is being interpreted as a countermeasure to the fact that the South side has started to show interest in the North Korean humanitarian issue, such as the South Korean Government's decision to allow North Korean loggers who escaped from logging camps in Russia to defect to South Korea.

'Sources' on 'Important Change' in DPRK Policy

SK1704225194 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2104 GMT 17 Apr 94

[Report by Pak Tae-sok from Beijing]

[Text] Diplomatic sources in Beijing have stated that last week North Korean President Kim Il-song expressed the wish to visit the United States. This is a sign of an important change indicating that North Korea would no longer use the nuclear program as a nuclear card and that it would concentrate diplomatic efforts on resolving its economic problems.

The diplomatic sources said that the current North Korean economic situation is more serious than the nuclear issue, and that North Korea would therefore accept, in any form, the comprehensive nuclear inspections [kwangbomwihan haeksachal] required by the international community during next month in accordance with the statement issued by president of the UN Security Council.

They also said that China and North Korea had held meetings—official or unofficial—in New York, Beijing, and Vienna regarding the nuclear issue and that they had in-depth discussions to discuss North Korea's economic opening after the settlement of the nuclear issue.

They predict that Kim Il-song will visit Beijing soon because the North Korean leadership, including Kim Il-song, actively supported China's economic opening during the successive visits to Pyongyang by members of the Political Bureau of the CPC and envoys of China's Liberation Army since July last year, and because Kim Il-song stressed trade development in his New Year's address.

DPRK Reportedly Sent Task Force to PRC

SK1704233994 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 2210 GMT 17 Apr 94

[Report by Yi Tong-sik from Beijing]

[Text] A Beijing-based source said that North Korea had sent a special task force to Beijing during President Kim Yong-sam's visit to China. The task force was made up of responsible North Korean high-level working officials from various sectors—such as politics, international affairs, and economics—and arrived in Beijing two days before President Kim Yong-sam's visit and collected information regarding the contents of the ROK-PRC talks, including the summit talks between Presidents Kim Yong-sam and Jiang Zemin, and the future development of their talks.

The source stated that through the task force, in particular, North Korea prudently focused on China's position regarding the nuclear issue and observed how the ROK-PRC talks could affect the United States or the United Nations.

Government Conducts Army, Air Force Reshuffle

SK1604051994 Seoul YONHAP in English 0504 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 16 (YONHAP)—The government on Saturday carried out a regular reshuffle of senior Army and Air Force officers featuring the appointment of Lt. Gen. Chang Song, superintendent of the military academy, as commander of the Korea-U.S. Combined Forces [CFC].

Chang, who will get his fourth star upon assuming his new post, succeeds Gen. Kim Chae-chang as CFC commander.

Kim and five lt. and maj. generals were relieved of their duties apparently for their past affiliation with Hana-hoe, a private Army organization whose members monopolized key military posts under the regimes of Chon Tu-hwan and No Tae-u.

The five sacked Hana-hoe generals included Pyo Sun-pae and Kim Kil-pu, both corps commanders.

The shake-up also resulted in Maj. Gen. Yu Chong-kap, head of the Joint Chiefs of Staff's collection and security department, being named as director of the Defense Ministry Intelligence Agency and Lt. Gen. Choe Tong-hwan, vice Air Force chief of staff, as director of strategy of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Those named to take over the duties of the dismissed corps commanders were Maj. Gen. Kwak Tong-to, Army deputy chief of staff for personnel, and Maj. Gen. Kim sok-won, Army deputy chief of staff for operations.

In another step, Maj. Gens. Kim Hyon-su and Kil Yong-chol, both division commanders who were former Hana-hoe members, were relieved of their duties while another Hana-hoe general, Brig. Gen. Min Pyong-kuk, a deputy corps commander, was somehow promoted to maj. general and named as a division commander.

It has been learned that Gen. Kim Chae-chang and seven Hana-hoe lieutenant generals relieved of their duties Saturday will be placed on reserve status soon.

'3,000' Protest Uruguay Round at Seoul Rally

SK1604133294 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1235 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Some 3,000 people, including members of the National Alliance for Democracy and Reunification and college students, held a rally on the Uruguay Round at Chongmyo Park in Seoul this afternoon and vowed to continue their struggle to oppose the parliamentary ratification of the Uruguay Round negotiation.

Foreign Currency Holdings Limit Abolished

SK1904011094 Seoul YONHAP in English 0031 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Seoul, April 19 (YONHAP)—The Ministry of Finance decided Tuesday to scrap the regulation restricting an individual's foreign currency holdings to 10,000 U.S. dollars beginning June 1, setting no possession limit.

The Ministry, however, called on those who have over 50,000 dollars to report to the authorities, citing the need to have correct information on the country's foreign currency reserves for effective implementation of economic policies.

In another effort to internationalize the nation's economy, the Ministry allowed businesses to use Korean won equivalent up to 300,000 dollars, compared to the present limit of 100,000 dollars, in settling import, export and reinsurance accounts.

The Ministry also allowed businesses to spend Korean won in settling freight and insurance accounts incurred through the export and import of goods.

Burma

SLORC Issues Citizens' Investment Law 31 Mar

BK1704094394 Rangoon THE NEW LIGHT OF BURMA in English 1 Apr 94 p 1

["Full text" of Myanmar Citizens' Investment Law or the State Law and Order Restoration Council Law No. 4/94 issued on 31 March]

[Text] The State Law and Order Restoration Council hereby enacts the following Law:

Chapter I

Title and Definition

1. This Law shall be called the Myanmar [Burmese] Citizens Investment Law.
2. The following expressions contained in this Law shall have the meanings given hereunder:
   (a) Commission means the Myanmar Citizens Investment Commission formed under this Law;
   (b) Citizen includes an associate citizen or a naturalized citizen;
   (c) Proposal means an application and prescribed documents submitted to the Commission in accordance with the stipulation for investment in an economic enterprise;
   (d) Permit means the order of approval by the Commission in respect of a proposal;
   (e) Economic Enterprise means an economic enterprise which has obtained a permit under this Law;
   (f) Investor means a citizen making an investment and operating an economic enterprise under a permit or a citizen legally authorized by such citizen. This expression also includes a co-operative society formed under the Co-operative Society Law, a company, partnership, joint-venture, an organization operating an economic enterprise, formed under any existing law and consisting only of citizens or citizens legally authorized by such company, partnership, joint-venture and organization;
   (g) Investment includes the following:
      (i) domestic currency, foreign currency re-investment out of the profits of the economic enterprise;
      (ii) machinery, spare parts, equipment and machinery component;
      (iii) land, building;
      (iv) raw material;
      (v) technology, trade mark, licence, patent rights which can be evaluated.
   (h) Bank means any bank which is established under the Financial Institutions of Myanmar Law or any corresponding bank of Myanmar.

Chapter II

Objectives

3. The objectives of this law are as follows:
   (a) to cause investments of Myanmar citizens to be beneficial to the State:
   (b) to promote development of production and services;
   (c) to cause production of goods by utilizing the natural resources of the country;
   (d) to establish enterprises for import substitution
   (e) to promote and expand export;
   (f) to promote development of technology;
   (g) to open up more employment opportunities;
   (h) to promote development of private and co-operative sectors;
   (i) to contribute towards regional development;
   (j) to enable extensive participation in the money market.

Chapter III

Applicable Economic Enterprises

4. This Law applies only to economic enterprises or types of economic activities which the Commission prescribes by notification from time to time with the approval of the Government.

Chapter IV

Formation of the Commission and Duties and Powers Thereof

5. In order to implement successfully the objectives of this Law, the Government shall form the Myanmar Citizens Investment Commission.
6. The duties and powers of the Commission are as follows:
   (a) prescribing by notification the economic enterprises or types of economic activities applicable to this Law, with the approval of the Government;
   (b) scrutinizing the proposal submitted to the Commission by a person desirous of making an investment, and deciding as to whether the proposal should be accepted or not;
   (c) issuing a permit to the investor if the proposal is accepted;
   (d) giving a decision as may be necessary when the investor applies for extension or reduction of the tenure of the permit, suspension for the time specified, termination or alteration of the approval;
   (e) reviewing and altering the order or decision when any investor submits for review and alteration of any order or decision;
   (f) being able, at any time to call for supporting evidence, facts, annual report or statement of accounts which are considered necessary by the Commission from the investor;

(g) scrutinizing as may be necessary and permitting the appointed subject to a time limit when the investor applies for permission to appoint foreign expert under requirement of work;

(h) informing the relevant Government department and Government organization for grant of rights and appropriate assistance in respect of rights entitled in accordance with law by any investor;

(i) taking action as may be necessary when a submission is made by an investor that he has not been granted in full the rights to which he is entitled under this Law;

(j) passing an administrative penalty, if an investor violates the provisions of this Law, rules, procedures, orders, directives issued under this law or any condition of the permit;

(k) being able to form committees and bodies as may be necessary in carrying out the purposes contained in this Law.

7. The decision of the Commission shall be final and conclusive except in the case of review and alteration of its order or decision under section 6 sub-section (e).

Chapter V

Submission of Proposal and Issuance of Permit

8. A person desirous of making an investment to operate an economic enterprise under this Law shall apply to the Commission with the proposal in order to obtain a permit.

9. On receipt of a proposal, the Commission shall scrutinize based on the following facts, in order to determine whether the economic enterprise mentioned in the proposal should be permitted or not:

(a) whether it is in conformity with the policies of the State or not;

(b) whether it is in contravention of any existing law or not;

(c) whether it contributes to the economic development of the State or not;

(d) whether there is financial credibility or not;

(e) whether there is economic justification or not;

(f) whether there is appropriateness of technology or not;

(g) whether there is prospect of successful implementation of the enterprise or not;

10. If the proposal is accepted the Commission shall issue a permit to the investor in accordance with the stipulation.

Chapter VI

Duties and Rights of an Investor

11. The duties and rights of an investor are as follows:

(a) being responsible to abide by the provision of this Law, rules, procedures, orders, directives issued under this Law and conditions of the permit;

(b) being responsible for effecting insurance with the Myanmar Insurance in accordance with the Myanmar Insurance Law;

(c) having the right to appoint foreign experts for the time specified, when necessary, after obtaining the approval of the Commission;

(d) having the right to obtain assistance from the relevant Government department and Government organization to acquire land, building, water, telecommunication, and energy which are basic requirements in an economic enterprise;

(e) having the right to acquire and utilize in accordance with the Law, technical assistance and technology from the relevant Government department and Government organization in operating an economic enterprise;

(f) having the right to summit [as published] to the Commission when it is considered necessary to review and alter any order or decision of the Commission, in order that an economic enterprise may be operated successfully in accordance with the proposal or in order that the right to which he is entitled in accordance with the law may be obtained in full;

(g) having the right to submit to the Commission and the relevant Government department and Government organization for acquiring his benefits in accordance with the Law and for causing action to be taken in respect of his grievances;

(h) having the right to form and operate in accordance with the Foreign Investment Law, if desirous of establishing a joint venture with a foreigner or with any foreign company.

Chapter VII

Exemptions and Reliefs from Taxes

12. In order to promote investments by citizens, the Commission shall grant the investor exemption from income-tax for a period extending to 3 consecutive years inclusive of the year of commencement of the economic enterprise.

13. The Commission may, by the notification grant the investor any or more than one of the following exemptions or reliefs from taxes, in addition to the right mentioned in section 12.

(a) if foreign currency is included in the investment of any economic enterprise, relief of income-tax in accordance with the stipulation, depending upon the amount of such foreign currency;

(b) if the prescribed foreign currency is accrued from the export of goods or services by any economic enterprise, relief from income-tax up to 50 percent on such profits accrued for the time specified;

(c) In the case of an economic enterprise which is beneficial to the State, if there is an increase in domestic and foreign income to the extent of the prescribed rate, due to production of goods or service enterprise, relief from income-tax in accordance with the stipulation;

(d) If the economic enterprise is an import substitute enterprise or production of goods or service enterprise, which is determined to be mainly necessary for the State and where it is operated with little profits, relief from income-tax in accordance with the stipulation for a reasonable period;

(e) if it is an economic enterprise which utilizes technology and operates for the development of high technology, relief from income-tax in accordance with the stipulation for a reasonable period;

(f) exemption or relief from income-tax from profits accrued from the economic enterprise, if they are maintained in the reserve fund and re-invested therein within 1 year after the reserve is made;

(g) the right to accelerate depreciation in respect of machinery, equipment, building or other capital assets used in the enterprise at the rate fixed and to the extent of the original value within a short term, for the purpose of income-tax assessment;

(h) exemption and relief from customs duty or other internal taxes or both on machinery, spare parts, equipment, machinery components and materials used in the enterprise, which are not available locally and are imported as they are actually required for use during the prescribed period of initial investment;

(i) exemption and relief from customs duty or other internal taxes or both on imports of raw materials and materials used in the enterprise and permitted by the Commission to be imported for the first 3 years' commercial production following the completion of the prescribed period of initial investment;

(j) exemption and relief from commercial tax on goods produced for export;

(k) if it is an economic enterprise, which contributes mainly towards development of remote areas determined by the Commission, relief from income-tax in accordance with the stipulation for a reasonable period.

Chapter VIII

Guarantee

14. It is guaranteed that an economic enterprise which has obtained a permit shall not be nationalized during the tenure of the permit.

Chapter IX

Administrative Penalties

15. The Commission may pass any or all of the following administrative penalties on an investor who violated this Law, rules, procedures, orders, and directives, issued under this Law or any condition of the permit:
    (a) warning;
    (b) causing the fine to be paid and permitting the enterprise to be continued;
    (c) revoking the permit;
    (d) temporarily suspending the exemptions and reliefs from taxes;
    (e) entering the name of the enterprise on the black list of economic enterprises on which no permit will be issued in future.

16. Failure to pay the fine ordered under section 15, sub- section (b) shall entail the recovery of such fine as if it were an arrear of land revenue.

Chapter X

Miscellaneous

17. The Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development shall:
    (a) undertake the responsibility of the office work;
    (b) bear the expense of the Commission.

18. For the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Law the Commission may:
    (a) issue such rules and procedures as may be necessary, with the approval of the Government;
    (b) issue such orders and directives as may be necessary.

(Sd) [Signed] Than Shwe
Senior General
Chairman
The State Law and Order Restoration Council

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Czech Foreign Minister Pays Official Visit

Arrives for Talks

BK1904035794 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0542 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 19 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Czech Foreign Affairs Minister Josef Zieleniec arrived here Tuesday for a two-day official visit to Malaysia. Zieleniec, accompanied by his wife Pavla Zielenieccova, and an entourage of senior government officials, economic experts, businessmen and journalists, was met upon arrival at the Kuala Lumpur International Airport by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr Abdullah Fadzil Che Wan.

Zieleniec told reporters his visit here was to foster closer bilateral relationship.

He also said that he would discuss ways to enhance trade cooperation and government-to-government relationship between his country and Malaysia.

Zieleniec and his entourage will leave for Australia Wednesday.

Meets With Trade Minister

BK1904094894 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Malaysia is a gateway to ASEAN with the 350 million people in its dynamic region. The country is also a gateway to the whole of the East Asia region. The minister of international trade and industry, Datuk Sri Rafidah Aziz said in view of this there should be a greater network between the private sectors of both Malaysia and Czech. She noted that Malaysia is very interested to receive foreign direct investments in a broad range of activities. She said this at a meeting with the Foreign Minister of Czech Josef Zieleniec and his 35-member trade delegation at her ministry in Kuala Lumpur today.

Datuk Sri Rafidah said bilateral trade of the two countries was only U.S.$20 million last year. She pointed out that the volume is very small and there is potential to expand it.

Mr. Josef Zieleniec and the delegation are on a two-day visit to Malaysia. He called on the minister of foreign affairs, Datuk Abdullah Ahmad Badawi, at the Foreign Ministry in Kuala Lumpur this afternoon.

Peacekeeping Troops To Remain in Bosnia

BK1904072594 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0558 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 19 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia will not withdraw its troops serving with the United Nations Protection Force (Unprofor) in Bosnia-Herzegovina despite the government's apprehension over the situation there, Prime Minister Dr Mahathir Mohamed said Tuesday. The government cannot recall its troops because the move will be similar to the measures of the United Nations which we criticise, he said when asked to comment on the latest situation in Bosnia.

The government is aware of the dangers faced by our soldiers but we cannot allow the Bosnians to be killed just like that by the Serbs, he told a news conference after presenting excellence service awards to Home Ministry staff at the Prime Minister's Department, here.

The prime minister said the government was concerned over the Malaysian soldiers because they were not equipped with adequate weapons as their duty was only peacekeeping.

He also said that if the Malaysian soldiers were entrapped, he feared that the other UN soldiers might not go to their assistance as was the case when the Bosnians needed help.

Dr Mahathir said that even so, the government would not withdraw the 1,500 Malaysian soldiers, most of them from the 23rd Battalion Royal Malay Regiment stationed in several Bosnian towns including Sarajevo, because the government did not only speak of justice but also practised it.

Earlier, he criticised the [words indistinct] and the Security Council for not doing anything to help the Muslims in Goradze.

He said that they were actually not interested to help and purposely allow the Serbs to kill the Bosnians and occupy the town.

When the Serbs advanced, they did not put a stop to it and now they are merely saving the UN troops and leaving the Muslims without any help, he said.

Philippine Embassy Urged To Explain Detentions

BK1904091894 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] The Philippine Embassy in Kuala Lumpur should explain to its people the real situation relating to the rounding up of more than 1,000 Philippine workers at St. John Cathedral in the federal capital on March the 27th. Deputy Home Minister Datuk Megat Junid Megat Ayub said the Philippines should understand Malaysia's position and the problems it faced following influx of illegal workers.

Speaking to reporters at parliament house, he said if the embassy wants the issue to be settled amicably, then they should tell the Philippine people that the operation was carried out in accordance with the law. He said Malaysians, too, (?were arrested) overseas for overstaying, but the government did not protest. Datuk Megat Junid said Malaysia was facing not only the problem of illegal workers from the Philippines, but from other countries like Indonesia, Bangladesh, Thailand, and Myanmar [Burma] as well.

Weapons Found in Seized Vietnamese Trawlers

BK1904092994 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0402 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, April 19 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The marine police Monday found two assault rifles and a grenade launcher in a Vietnamese fishing boat being detained at Cenderung fishing port in the east coast Trengganu state since March 7 for illegal fishing in Trengganu waters.

Marine Police officer Zainul Abidin Hassan said his men also recovered 97 rounds of rifle ammunition and 14 rounds of ammunition for the grenade launcher hidden in the boat. He said the marine police found the arms and ammunition, believed to be China-made, following a thorough inspection of the boat, which was detained by the Fisheries Department Marine Division.

All the 13 crew members of the boat were fined a total of [Malaysian ringgit] RM350000 (US$1–RM2.70) or 54 months' jail on March . They did not pay the fines. According to the Fisheries Department, no arms or amunitions were found on the boat at the time of arrest.

Cambodia

Sirivut Receives UN Secretary General's Envoy

BK1804131494 Phnom Penh AKP in English 1009 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Phnom Penh AKP April 18—Prince Kromkhun Norodom Sirivut, minister of foreign affairs and international cooperation, gave an audience to Mr. Benny Widyono, UN secretary general's representative, at the Foreign Ministry office.

During the audience, Benny Widyono informed H.R.H. [His Royal Highness] Prince Kromkhun Norodom Sirivut that he was appointed by the UN secretary general as his representative in Cambodian [as received] in accordance with the resolution 880 (1993), paragraph 13, adopted by the UN Security Council at its 3303rd meeting on 4 November 1993, with the following mandate of which the initial term is 6 month period:

—To maintain close liaison and dialogue with the host government in accordance with the spirit and principle of the Paris agreement.

—To monitor the political situation in Cambodia and report on significant developments relating to peace and security in the country.

—To maintain close contact with UN chief military liaison officer and provide him with political guidance.

—To maintain liaison and dialogue with the resident coordinator, the head of the human right center in Cambodia and other UN agencies.

—To report on his activities to the secretary general through the under secretary general for political affairs.

For his part, Prince Kromkhun Norodom Sirivut has warmly welcomed the presence of Mr. Benny Widyono as a representative of the UN secretary general in Cambodian and affirmed that the royal government will give its full support and arrangements for the UN mission in Cambodia.

Ranariddh's Wife Appointed Head of Red Cross

BK1904070394 Phnom Penh AKP in French 0400 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Phnom Penh 19 Apr (AKP)—The first meeting of the Kingdom of Cambodia's Red Cross Federation was organized last Monday at the Chaktomuk hall under the chairmanship of Samdech Chea Sim, chairman of the National Assembly.

The meeting decided to appoint Princess Norodom Marie Ranariddh, chairman of the Central Committee and Her Majesty Norodom Monineat Sihanouk, honorary chairman of the Cambodian Red Cross Federation.

On behalf of His Majesty Norodom Sihanouk, Samdech Chea Sim stressed that this meeting's objective is to set up the Red Cross Federation by grouping the country's three Red Cross organizations: the Red Cross of the State of Cambodia, that of the National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia (FUNCINPEC), and that of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front (KPNLF).

The Cambodian Red Cross Federation was recognized on 24 March 1994 among member countries of the Red Cross and of the Red Crescent.

The federation has seven basic principles, taken from the ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross), including humanitarian action, justice, neutrality, and independence.

The National Assembly Chairman expects that the executive committee of the federation would forge good relations with international circles in order to respond to the Cambodian people's needs.

Press Reports on Fighting in Pailin Continue

SRV Troops Hired To Attack Pailin

BK1704084294 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] According to the revelation by six soldiers of the two- headed government captured on 13 and 14 April, the government used foreign financial aid for national reconstruction to hire 500 (Dac Cong) commando troops, selected from the communist Vietnamese's 7th, 9th, 330th, and 309th Divisions, to attack Pailin. The soldiers were paid $100 daily.

These Vietnamese soldiers were used to fight in Cambodia before and some of them even used to be posted in Pailin. They can say some Cambodian words and have dressed up as Khmer Royal Armed Forces troops. They are front line forces. Somehow, in their onslaught on Pailin, 300 of them were killed or wounded in just a few days. Now, the remaining 200 soldiers are stationed at Kaong Kang Monastery and Phnum Yat adjoining Pailin town.

Although the Vietnamese soldiers are front line intervention forces, the Pailin battlefield situation has so far caused them to prepare for hasty retreat.

These actions are evidence that the two-headed government, communist Vietnamese, and the alliance have used national coffers to wage war. And they have gone so far as to hire the communist Vietnamese troops to destroy the Cambodian nation and people mercilessly. The nation and people are resolved to oppose the two-headed government, which has sold the nation out and destroyed the nation and people, and its masters until genuine peace is restored to Cambodia.

Battlefield Report: 14-15 Apr

BK1704090694 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] The following is a report on the Pailin battlefield situation between 14 and 15 April 1994:

1. On 14 April, the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea attacked the two-headed government troops at Toek S'am adjoining Pailin. In the fighting from 0700 to 1800, we destroyed a T-54 tank and a military truck

and we killed 17 enemy soldiers and wounded many others. The remaining troops were forced to retreat for their lives to Stoeng Kanh.

2. On 15 April, we intercepted a group of transport forces on the road linking [word indistinct] and Pailin, killing 15 enemy soldiers and wounding 12 others. The remaining troops were forced to retreat behind their lines.

3. Those in the Pailin town now are complaining about the shortage of rice, [word indistinct], and medicine. Wounded or killed soldiers are found everywhere. And roads are blocked [words indistinct]. The situation so far is that the invading forces have been routed extensively.

4. Puppet leaders, like Fifth Military Region Commander Hul Savoan and Battambang Province Commander Manh Sophat, have already run away from their troops, leaving their subordinates to die in Pailin. As for the remaining 200 (Dac Cong) Vietnamese soldiers at Phnum Yat, they are also prepared to beat a hasty retreat. Since Pailin has completely been surrounded, they can only run away through the bamboo-covered jungles. Nevertheless, they will be killed by stepping on land mines or lose their way and become foxes' or lizards' prey.

KR Claims Pailin Recaptured

BK1904102994 Hong Kong AFP in English 1021 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] Phnom Penh, April 19 (AFP)—The ultra-left Khmer Rouge [KR] said they had recaptured on Tuesday their former headquarters at Pailin in northwest Cambodia, ousting government troops which had seized the strategic town only a month earlier.

"We took our base back at 12:45 P.M., captured eight government tanks in good condition and destroyed seven," the Khmer Rouge's spokesman in Phnom Penh said, adding that casualty figures had not yet been confirmed.

The spokesman said 3,000 guerrillas attacked and forced back some 7,000 government troops.

"I am very excited to hear we can get back our houses," he said.

Co-Defence Minister Tie Banh admitted that the Khmer Rouge had recaptured part of Pailin.

"But remember Pailin is a very big place," he said.

"Some of our troops are countering the attack and there is fighting going on there," he added.

Tie Banh said the government had only six tanks in operation at Pailin and questioned how the guerrillas could talk about 15 tanks.

Other military officials said the situation in Pailin was not yet clear.

"We should wait until tomorrow," one general said.

" The nature of military operations is like that, there is pushing up and down," he said.

The Cambodian Army seized Pailin on March 19, claiming a body blow to the guerrillas' opposition to the government that emerged from the UN-organised elections in Cambodia last May.

Pailin is a town near the Thai border that has been in the guerrillas' zone of influence for years. Its ruby mines and rich forests of teak have provided the Khmer Rouge with a huge source of income.

Experts agreed that the government's seizure of Pailin was of symbolic weight, but questioned whether the Phnom Penh forces would be able to—or even should—hold on to the strategic site.

The Khmer Rouge's classic tactic in such setbacks is to fall back into the jungle, harass the government's supply lines and then suddenly regroup, launching an offensive to recapture lost terrain.

Indonesia

Iraqi Foreign Minister Continues Official Visit

Seeks End of UN Economic Sanctions

BK1804160094 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1444 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 18 (ANTARA)—Iraqi President Saddam Husayn is asking Indonesia as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement (NAM) to help settle the problem of continuing United Nations' economic sanctions against his country, Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said here on Monday.

"Iraq maintains that the sanctions should have been stopped long ago as Baghdad has complied with all UN Security Council resolutions including those on nonproliferation of nuclear and chemical weapons," the minister told the press after a meeting with visiting Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'id al-Sahhaf.

Alatas said a letter from the Iraqi President containing the request would be handed to President Suharto by Sahhaf on Tuesday.

He said Indonesia had been closely following developments involving Iraq and made informal approaches to other NAM member countries to collect their views on Iraq's stance that it had implemented all of the Security Council's resolutions.

"We have the impression that Iraq has carried out all resolutions adopted by the UN Security Council. Yet the UN economic sanctions have continued to be in force," Alatas said.

"Indonesia as chairman of NAM will certainly attend to matter and, after an in-depth study, make efforts to help resolve it," Alatas said, adding that all decisions on the steps NAM would take to help Iraq would be made by President Suharto.

Meets With Foreign Minister Alatas

JN1804200094 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1800 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] [Iraqi] Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf, President Saddam Husayn's envoy to Indonesian President Suharto, met in Jakarta today with Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas. Al- Sahhaf briefed his Indonesian counterpart on the status of the relations between Iraq and the United Nations regarding the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions, especially Resolution 687. He stressed that a clear majority has emerged at the UN Security Council calling for dealing with Iraq in light of the implementation of the resolutions. This is in order to set a clear timetable for closing the file of Part C of Resolution 687, which would mean that the UN Security Council should immediately start implementation of Paragraph 22 of the resolution, allowing Iraq to export its products abroad.

The foreign minister also briefed the Indonesian side on the recent National Assembly speaker's statement on Iraq's readiness to receive a Kuwaiti parliamentary delegation.

Ali Alatas expressed understanding of Iraq's position. The two sides discussed bilateral cooperation and coordination within the Nonaligned Movement. They also discussed ways of bolstering bilateral relations in the interest of both countries.

Foreign Minister Muhammad Sa'id al-Sahhaf, leader President Saddam Husayn's envoy to Indonesian President Suharto, arrived in Jakarta yesterday

Meets With Suharto

BK1904090894 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Text] In his capacity as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement and president of the Republic of Indonesia, President Suharto has promised to work for the lifting of UN economic sanctions against Iraq. Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said this to reporters after he accompanied his Iraqi counterpart Sa'id al-Sahhaf who paid a courtesy call on the president at Jakarta's Bina Graha presidential office this morning.

The Iraqi minister, who held hour-long talks with the president, conveyed Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's oral message on efforts to lift economic sanctions as stipulated in Clause C of the UN Resolution No. 687, which Iraq believes it has fully conformed to. Iraq hopes the four-year-old sanctions will be lifted soon because it has caused severe hardship to its people. The Iraqi minister said his country's infant mortality rate has increased (?sevenfold) against that before the war, while the mortality rate for children over five years old is four times higher. As a result of severe economic sanctions, about 150,000 children have died due to malnutrition and even hunger.

During talks between President Suharto and the Iraqi foreign minister, various steps have been agreed on in approaching the United Nations through the Nonaligned Movement's Coordinating Bureau at the UN headquarters and urging the UN Security Council to review the sanctions and conduct an objective study aimed at lifting the four-year-old sanctions. In this connection, Iraq also called for solidarity and support of all Nonaligned Movement members.

Official Promotes Closer Trade Ties With PRC

BK1804101594 Jakarta SUARA PEMBARUAN in Indonesian 6 Apr 94 p 4

[Excerpts] Jakarta, 6 Apr—Aburizal Bakrie, chairman of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said Indonesia should not consider the people's Republic of China (PRC) as a competitor in the fields of trade and investment. This is because the two countries can play an equally important role in supporting economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region.

Aburizal Bakrie was speaking to newsmen during a break in a seminar on Trade and Investment Relations between Indonesia and China held in Jakarta on 5 April.

He said that it is impossible for the Asia-pacific economy to grow without higher economic growth in Indonesia and China, the two most populous countries in the region. Therefore, if the two countries are competing with each other, let it be a healthy competition that is mutually complementary. [Passage omitted]

In his written message to the seminar, Minister of Trade Satrio Budiarjo Judono, expressed the hope that traders from Indonesia and PRC would forge closer cooperation and take advantage of the vast opportunities available in the two countries.

He said that Indonesian businessmen should increase their volume of exports to the PRC. In 1993, the value of Indonesia's exports to the PRC totaled $1.249 billion. The receipt from oil and gas exports was US$554.3 million, along with US$ 695.2 million from exports of nonoil and nongas commodities.

Continuing, he said Indonesia's imports from PRC in the same period totaled US$936 million, and this included imports of oil and gas, which stood at US$39.5 million; while imports of nonoil and nongas commodities stood at US$896.5 million.

Indonesia's major import from PRC was textiles fiber, which reached US$92.9 million; while Indonesia's main export to PRC was plywood, which totaled US$481.05 million. [Passage omitted]

Foreign Minister Remarks on Situation in Gorazde

BK1804154594 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Ali Altas said that Indonesia is worried about the indecisive attitude shown by the United Nations and NATO toward the Serbs in Gorazde, Bosnia. He said that the United Nations had declared Gorazde a safe haven and that no party could interfere there. Therefore, according to the resolution, the United Nations and NATO should take firm action against the Serbs for violating the United Nations resolution several times.

Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said that the Foreign Affairs Department is continuously monitoring the situation in Gorazde and is making efforts to seek the release of five Indonesian military observers taken hostage by the Serbs. He said the worrying situation in Bosnia does not change Indonesia's wish to send health officials or other military observers to Bosnia.

Further Reports on Labor Strikes, Ethnic Unrest

Military Chief Warns Protesters

BK1504161894 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1500 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Text] The North Sumatera regional chapter of the Coordinating Agency for the Strengthening of National Stability will take stern action against workers who stage protest demonstrations within its jurisdiction. Major General Pranowo, commander of the Bukit Barisan Regional Military Command, said this to reporters in Medan today after tens of thousands of workers yesterday staged violent demonstrations, during which they destroyed dozens of houses, four cars, and one motorcycle.

He said the authorities will not tolerate any protest rallies staged by workers in the future because such rallies will lead to destructive actions. Besides, the workers' demands no longer represent the true wishes of the workers themselves due to the interference of irresponsible elements which may undermine national unity and stability.

[Hong Kong AFP in a Jakarta datelined item at 1201 GMT adds the following: "Indonesian security authorities in North Sumatera Friday clashed with 40,000 workers demanding better conditions and arrested at least six of the demonstrators, a lawyer said.

"The demonstration occurred on the outskirts of the North Sumateran city of Medan, and the number of participants was double that who protested on Thursday, said Hasbi Ansori, an attorney with the Indonesian Legal Aid Institute (LBH).

"Ansori, who was at the demonstration, said security forces attempted to break up some 40,000 workers from around 40 factories in an industrial area north of the city.

"But an officer at the North Sumatera Police said the demonstration involved only 10,000 workers in the three industrial zones of Mabar, Pulau Brayan and Gelugur. He said the workers had been completely dispersed in the afternoon and that 70 people were under questioning.

"As the demonstrators were marching towards the city, Ansori said he saw at least six people being hauled away by security forces after the rally turned violent.

"Security forces began to break up the protest as demonstrators threw stones at factories and passing cars.

"The officer, who declined to be named, said that police forces in the Medan area had been put on 'first alert' Friday, but that the status might fall back to 'second alert' Saturday.

"North Sumatera military spokesman Lieutenant Colonel Marjono said on the telephone from Medan that security authorities 'will not tolerate (this type of activity) and will take firm action against labor protests because they have stepped out of limit.'

"Marjono, however, denied that any arrests had been made.

"Ansori said shops and offices had closed Friday in Medan, the third largest city in Indonesia, for fear of trouble. The city's streets were deserted.

"He said he believed the workers staged Friday's rally because they had failed to obtain a meeting with North Sumatera Governor Raja Inal Siregar during their rally Thursday.

" 'It might become bigger and bigger should the authorities ignore their demand,' Ansori said, adding that at least two isolated groups of workers were still protesting in the industrial area.

"The workers urged the government to improve employee conditions and grant them the freedom to organize and improve wages. They also wanted an investigation into the death of one of their fellow workers who died last month in the wake of a labor protest.

"The battered body of Ruali, a worker of rubber industry PT Industri Karet Deli, was found in a local river one day after he had led a workers protest last month. But no investigation into his death had been undertaken, Ansori said.

"Earlier this month, Indonesia's largest independent trade union postponed its planned nationwide strike that had been scheduled for early April to protest worker conditions, saying that discussions with the government were underway.

"The US government has threatened to revoke Indonesia's 600 million dollars worth of annual trade privileges unless it improves worker conditions, and temporarily extended the privileges for another six months."]

Violent Riots in Sumatra

OW1804115794 Tokyo KYODO in English 1142 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Jakarta, April 18 KYODO—Labor-related demonstrations in north Sumatra have spread from the provincial capital to two other cities and turned into violent anti-Chinese riots, military and labor sources said Monday [18 April].

The sources said some 10,000 workers held a three-hour protest Monday morning in Pematangsiantar, 120 kilometers southeast of Medan and 1400 kilometers northwest of Jakarta, in which seven people were injured.

Some reports said there were similar protests in Belawan, 40 kilometers north of Medan.

Sunarti heads the central board of the Indonesian Prosperity Trade Union (SBSI), an independent union which has been challenging the government's policy of only allowing one trade union, the All Indonesian Workers' Union (SPSI). [sentence as received]

At a news conference Monday, Sunarti said at least 81 people have so far been detained by the police, including two executives of the SBSI and the wife of a union executive.

They were arrested following five days of rioting in Medan, during which one ethnic Chinese businessman was killed.

The protesters are calling for better working conditions and higher wages. They protested the unexplained death of 22-year-old Rusli, a worker at a Medan-based company, after he took part in a labor strike that was only broken up when the troops were sent in.

Many believe the SBSI is the motivating force behind the rally.

The protests, however, have turned into violent anti-Chinese riots.

Police reports said that some angry demonstrators pelted shops, factories and vehicles owned by ethnic Chinese.

Chinese account for about three percent of the population of around 185 million in the mainly Muslim country. They are widely resented in Indonesia because of their economic power.

In the country, the ethnic Chinese are often the target of jealousy because of their economic success.

Some anti-Chinese leaflets were distributed among demonstrators saying, "Kill Chinese people as colonialists of the fundamental rights of indigenous Indonesian people," and "Send Chinese people back to China, because Indonesia is not their land."

Sunarti said, "The pamphlets are not ours. We never distributed them. There must be third parties who have been using our protest for their own interests."

The SBSI, Sunarti added, is only responsible for the protest for better working conditions, higher wages and the investigation into the death of Rusli, but not for the anti-Chinese riots.

The situation in Medan is still tense, although Lt. Col. Agus Ramadan, the district military commander, said the streets were quiet and many shops and companies were still closed.

Vincent Wijaya, an executive of the north Sumatran branch of the Indonesian trade chamber, told reporters that a Malaysian company had canceled its plans to buy land within the industrial estate after the riots.

The Indonesian legal aid foundation said the protests would continue if the government fails to improve its labor policy.

Anti-Chinese Sentiment High

BK1804130094 Hong Kong AFP in English 1012 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Medan, Indonesia, April 18 (AFP)—North Sumatra' main city of Medan was returning to normal Monday after workers' protests in which one businessman died, but anti-ethnic Chinese sentiment was still apparent.

Most businesses were back in operation and traffic had returned to normal but a businessman said "there are still some worries" and said that many of his women colleagues and employees were still being brought to and from works by male relatives.

The number of security officials deployed in strategic areas in the city, including shopping areas, was increased to 3,000 from 2,000 Sunday following rumours that students might join the protests, a witness said.

The witness added that most workers involved in the protests had yet to return to work.

Pamphlets circulated in private by an organization claiming to be "an indigenous group", called on Medan residents to rid the city of ethnic Chinese whom they said "destroy Indonesia's economy and destroy the moral of officials by among others, colluding with officials to get credits."

This was a reference to the case of the state-owned Bank Pembangunan Indonesia (Bapindo), which suffered losses of up to 613 million dollars after issuing credits without proper collaterals and procedures following alleged collusions between high-ranking officials and ethnic Chinese businessman Eddy Tansil.

Labour protests in North Sumatra started Thursday, involving tens of thousands of workers who, among other demands, urged the government to increase wages and recognize the right of workers to organize. At present the government only recognizes the All Indonesia Workers Union (SPSI).

The protests, which continued Friday on a larger scale, degenerated into an anti-Chinese riot and an ethnic Chinese factory owner, July Kristanto, was killed as scores of shops and factories were vandalized.

The Chinese, who make up about one-third of Medan's 1.5 million population, are widely resented in Indonesia because of their economic power.

The REPUBLIKA daily Sunday quoted an unidentified businessman here as saying the riots had forced several ethnic Chinese businessmen to flee to Singapore and other countries.

Medan District Military Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Agus Ramadan, said that four battalions totalling about 2,600 security personnel had been deployed in the area in anticipation of further "anti-ethnic Chinese demonstrations".

The military said that about 120 people had been arrested for alleged involvement in murder, vandalism and arson, but that all but 20 had since been released.

A Vice-Chairman of the Sejahtera (Prosperous) independent labour union (SBSI), Ghufron, said in Jakarta Monday that the union had together with eight other non-governmental organizations, organized Thursday's demonstration but denied inciting the demonstrators to violence.

An SBSI official dispatched to Medan on a fact-finding mission, reported that several local thugs had admitted to being paid by "certain parties" to manipulate the strike by initiating vandalism and attacking people," another SBSI Vice-Chairman, Sunarti, said.

Sunarti declined to elaborate until the fact finding mission had been completed.

"The workers detained in the wake of the strike should be immediately released," Sunarti said, adding that the government should also "be capable of arresting and punishing those who have consciously manipulated the strike with violence."

The union said that 78 people were still detained by police in Medan, including the union's local chapter secretary and treasurer and the wife of a union secretary.

The protest which spread to two nearby provincial towns Sunday, were reported to be continuing Monday in one of them, Siantar, although on a much smaller scale, an SBSI executive said.

Troops in Medan on Alert

BK1804144194 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1417 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Jakarta, Apr 18 (ANTARA)—Chairman of the Indonesian Chamber of Commerce and Industry Aburizal Bakrie affirmed that employers in Medan are willing to increase the wages of their employees but only if their demands are reasonable.

The workers' demand for a pay increase to 7,000 rupiah (around US$3.33) per day is unreasonable compared to the regional minimum wage of only 3,100 rupiah per day (around US$1.5), Bakrie told a press conference after a meeting with President Suharto at Merdeka Palace [Presidential Palace] Monday.

The conflict began in Medan on Thursday when more than 10,000 workers went on strike to demand higher wages and holiday bonus payments. The demonstration ended in a riot following the death of one worker. More than a hundred shops were ransacked and dozens of cars were set ablaze.

Indonesian police and troops in armoured cars remain on alert, guarding Medan's industrial areas, particularly on the city's outskirts where most of the rioting took place.

Commentary Urges Reconciliation

BK1904044894 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 19 Apr 94

[Station commentary]

[Text] The demonstrations by workers in Medan, North Sumatra, that degenerated into ugly riots should serve as a lesson to all groups in the country. We all regret demonstrations that deteriorate into destruction. The uncontrolled demonstrations would have become more serious if the security authorities had not acted swiftly to control them.

As reported in several newspapers, the workers in Medan and the surrounding areas had endured difficulties since March. The climax was reached last Friday when tens of thousands of workers from several factories in the city held illegal demonstrations because they thought they had been improperly treated by their employers.

Dozens of shophouses in the North Sumatra provincial capital were destroyed by rampaging mobs throwing stones and looting property. One businessman was even reported to have met a tragic death. The stampede spread to other places and was only stopped when security authorities interfered.

The question now is who should be held responsible for the events that degenerated into crime. The answer will certainly emerge after authorities complete their thorough investigation. Another question is whether there will be a repeat of these ugly events in the future. We must also think of those who will eventually suffer from the destruction in Medan and the stoppage of economic activities, which will certainly have a nationwide impact. The conclusion is that the Medan incident is highly regretted and we do not want to see a recurrence of the incident.

As Asians who have undergone both pleasant and unpleasant times since the colonial era, we are good at learning a lesson from any unpleasant experience. In this connection, the government, businessmen, and workers should work together through existing channels and mechanisms. The rule of the game, as stipulated in existing labor laws, government regulations, ministerial decrees, and other labor regulations, is clear and adequate. It now depends on how all sides understand, implement, and put them into practice. All sides must admit that the ugly incidents in Medan and other towns originated from simple demands for an increase in workers' wages, a guarantee of welfare services, and proper treatment by employers according to existing regulations.

What is most important is how the government and businessmen respond to such demands. As for workers, they should be vigilant against possible interference by a third party wanting to fish in troubled waters. A lack of response and delay in seeking a solution will only make things more difficult. We do not want to see a repeat of the case of Marsinah [woman labor activist who was murdered in East Java] or the murder of another businessman in Medan. This is especially important at a time when we are still under the watchful eyes of foreign countries which have placed our labor conditions under spotlight. Meanwhile, the swift action by security authorities in coping with any emergency anywhere within the country at any time deserves our praise.

Demonstrations Continue in Medan

BK1904104594 Hong Kong AFP in English 1002 GMT 19 Apr 94

[By Bhimanto Suwastoyo]

[Text] Medan, Indonesia, April 19 (AFP)—Fresh anti-Chinese sentiments flared again here Tuesday with thousands of people sacking and looting a downtown ethnic Chinese-owned commercial mall, witnesses said.

Between 1,000 and 2,000 people, armed with machetes, iron picks and stones, attacked the Thamrin Plaza in downtown Medan, owned by leading local ethnic-Chinese businessman Tanoto Sukanto, vandalizing the building and looting the shops, the witnesses said.

Intervening security forces immediately blocked the downtown business area where the mall was located while shops and offices in the area were closed again, they added.

Lawyer Hasbi Ansori of the Medan chapter of the Legal Aid Institute confirmed that the attack took place but said the building was not "severely damaged." He could not say how many attackers had been involved in the incident.

Ansori said the city's downtown business district was now completely deserted except for security forces as all businesses had closed again.

There were no reports of arrests, the witnesses said, and the regional police and military spokesmen could not be reached for comment.

Demonstrations on Thursday and Friday here by tens of thousands of workers demanding better working conditions degenerated into anti-Chinese rioting in which one factory owner was killed and many ethnic Chinese properties were vandalized.

Anti-Chinese pamphlets that first appeared during Thursday's protest, focusing on how ethnic Chinese were accumulating wealth to the detriment of other Indonesians, have continued to circulate in the city.

Indonesia's ethnic Chinese minority—making up about three percent of the population—is widely resented for its hold on economic power.

Meanwhile, thousands of workers around this northern Sumatran capital Tuesday refused to return to work for the second day in a row.

"Today, many of the factories are still closed and the workers are still gathering near their factories," said Jansius Lumban Tobing, Director of the Medan Industrial Zone north of here, adding that some 12,000 workers were believed to have taken part in a similar strike the previous day.

"They do not want to work but only sit around near their factories," Ansori said, adding that a strong security presence was now in place in and around the industrial zone and that shops had begun to reopen.

In Belawan, some 18 kilometres (11 miles) north of here, an officer at the local police post, First Sergeant Purba, said although some of workers in the area had started to return to work, "most were still standing outside the fences of their factories... demanding that their detained friends be set free."

Medan City Police Chief Colonel Chaerudin was Tuesday quoted by the BERITA BUANA daily as saying that as of noon Monday, a total of 112 suspects were being detained for questioning.

Witnesses said labor protests had Monday spread to Binjai, Tanjung [word indistinct], Deli Tua and Belawan—all towns around Medan—as well as in Pematang Siantar, some 125 kilometres (77 miles) southwest of here, where about 6,000 protestors went on the rampage and vandalized nine cars and a plastic factory.

Pematang Siantar Police Chief Lieutenant Colonel Baroto Badrus said the town was now calm.

Local military chief, Colonel Sunarto, said security authorities were letting workers gather in front of their factories "as long as they do not resort to destruction."

Some 1,500 Workers Stage Strike in Semarang

BK1904102594 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 14 Apr 94 p 2

[Text] Semarang, Central Java—Some 1,500 workers at PT [Limited Company] Jati Luhur Agung went on strike yesterday demanding a pay raise in compliance with the government's regional minimum wage.

One of the demonstrators, Sugito, told THE JAKARTA POST that the workers had conveyed their demands to the management on April 4th but to date had not received any reply.

The workers currently received Rp [Rupiah] 2000 a day, far below the sanctioned minimum of Rp 2,700 (US$1.27) for labor in Central Java.

"We will be happy to return to work as soon as they address our demands," he said.

The workers disbanded without incident from the wood floor-panel factory at 2 p.m. [0700 GMT] under the watchful eye of the police and armed forces.

Laos

Prime Minister Mahathir Continues Official Visit

Meets President, Prime Minister

BK1804115294 Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Vientiane, April 18 (KPL)—Malaysian Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed on April 16 arrived here on a three-day official visit to the Lao PDR [Lao People's Democratic Republic] at the invitation of Lao Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon.

The visit was in response to the December 1992 visit of the Lao prime minister to Malaysia, where three agreements were signed between the two governments concerning investment promotion and protection, economic, scientific and technical cooperation and air transportation.

During the visit, the Malaysian prime minister called on Lao President Nouhak Phoumsavan and met with Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon.

Talking with the Malaysian prime minister, President Nouhak Phoumsavan said this visit was very significant in the history of the Lao-Malaysian relations. He expressed hope that the bilateral relations would further develop fruitfully in many areas. In response, the Malaysian prime minister expressed pleasure over a warm hospitality the Lao Government and people gave to him and his party. He voiced support to the open-door policy of the Lao Government on economic relations and cooperation with foreign countries, and confirmed that he would do all he could to develop the friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries.

Lao Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon in his discussion with his Malaysian counterpart also said that the visit was historic. He considered it as implementing the three agreements signed between the two governments in 1992.

On the same day afternoon, talks were held between the government delegations of the two countries headed by their respective prime ministers. At the talks, both sides discussed a wide range of issues concerning their bilateral cooperation, both public and private, in various fields.

The two prime ministers then witnessed the signing of an agreement on banking settlement between the governors of the central banks of the two countries.

In the evening, Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon hosted a banquet in honour of his Malaysian counterpart.

The Malaysian prime minister was officially welcomed at the airport by Lao Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon together with Deputy Prime Minister Khamphoui Keoboualapha, Foreign Minister Somsavat Lengsavat and other members of the Lao Government officials. This three-day visit was the first ever made to the country by the Malaysian prime minister following the Lao prime minister's visit to Malaysia in December 1992.

The Malaysian delegation was accompanied by several important figures in the business circle of Malaysia.

Prime Ministers Speak at Banquet

BK1904103294 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 17 Apr 94

[Text] At 1930 yesterday, His Excellency [H.E.] Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], and his wife arranged a dinner at the National Assembly Hall in Vientiane capital in honor of H.E. Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed, prime minister of Malaysia, his wife, and the high-level Malaysian delegation, which is currently on an official, friendly visit to the LPDR. Attending the banquet on the Lao side were H.E. Phao Bounnaphon, minister attached to the Prime Minister's Office; H.E. Somsavat Lengsavat, minister of foreign affairs; H.E. Osakan Thammatheva, minister of information and culture; and H.E. Boungnang Volachit, governor of Vientiane Municipality; along with deputy ministers, members of the National Assembly, and many high- ranking cadres. Attending on the Malaysian side were H.E. Datuk Abdullah bin Haji Ahmad Badawi, minister of foreign affairs, and H.E. Dr.Lim Keng Yaik, minister of primary industries, along with some 25 high-ranking officials and businessmen.

During the banquet, which proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding between Laos and Malaysia, H.E. Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon delivered a speech welcoming the visit to Laos by the high-level delegation of the Malaysian Government. He said: [Begin Khamtai Siphandon recording] We are very pleased to welcome your excellency and wife in the land of the LPDR at a time when our Lao nation is celebrating the traditional new year. First of all, I would like to wholeheartedly salute and welcome the first official, friendly visit to the LPDR by H.E. Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed and his wife. We highly value this visit by your excellency, a visit which has brought to the Lao people profound friendship and intimate affection from the Malaysian people. This visit is considered a very significant event in the history of the good relations and cooperation between our two countries.

Your respected Excellency the Prime Minister, I had an opportunity to lead a delegation of the LPDR to visit your beautiful country [words indistinct]. Though time has passed, the impression of the visit still remains in our memories. We are elated to note that the relations and cooperation between our two countries, as close friends, have been fruitfully developed in many fields, thus bringing about concrete benefits for our two peoples. We are convinced that with the results of the talks between our two delegations, as well as with the visit by your excellency on this occasion, the relations and cooperation between our two countries in various spheres, both in the state and private sectors, will be further and ever more vigorously expanded. The LPDR is elated at the great success won by Malaysia in the economic field, and highly appraises the ever increasing role of Malaysia in the region as well as its significant contribution to solving various international problems.

I would like to take this occasion to wish the Malaysian people glorious and ever greater success on the path of the farsighted policy of your excellency's government.

Your Excellency, distinguished guests, at present, we are concentrating all the potentials of the country and trying to gain assistance and cooperation from foreign countries on exploiting our natural resources, which are regarded as our main strength—the agro-forestry branch, which is related to the processing industry, hydroelectric power, and the mining industry, being one example. Simultaneously, we have striven to build and expand the infrastructure while developing human resources with a view to increasing the average rate of economic growth of the nation for the period from now to the year 2000 [words indistinct]. To achieve the said goal, the LPDR will continue to promote and expand domestic potentials, securely maintain political and social stability, and promote the building of a market-oriented economy. At the same time, the LPDR will broaden relations and cooperation with various countries, first and foremost with neighboring countries. We hope that more businessmen from Malaysia and other friendly countries will invest in our Lao country to contribute toward freeing the Lao people from a state of underdevelopment and bringing about peace, (?stability), friendship, and cooperation in this region.

On this auspicious occasion, I would like to convey to His Majesty the Paramount Ruler of Malaysia my best wishes for his happiness and long life. I wish H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of the LPDR, good health. I wish H.E. Mahathir bin Mohamed and his wife good health. I wish all the distinguished guests here good health. May the friendship and cooperation between Laos and Malaysia be increasingly strengthened and fruitfully developed! [end recording]

Afterwards, H.E. Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed, prime minister of Mlaysia, delivered a speech of reply. He said: We are very pleased to visit Laos amid the the Lao people's traditional new year festival celebrations. On this traditional new year occasion, we wish H.E. Khamtai Siphandon and wife, together with the government and people of Laos, great success and good health. We are touched by the friendly welcome accorded us by the Lao people. Though our visit is short, it will be forever engraved on our hearts.

On the occasion of your excellency's visit to our country in December 1992, we had an opportunity to exchange views on many issues. In fact, our friendly relations have been promoted and developed since then. Our friendship has also been increasingly consolidated and promoted to the extent that we believe it should noe be expanded in the area of cooperation. For this reason, I have accepted the invitation of your excellency and the Lao Government to pay the official visit to Laos.

Your excellency, though this is my first visit to Laos, it is considered a very significant event as it is the first visit by the Malaysian prime minister to this country. Our delegation comprises senior ministers, high-ranking officials, and personages from our business circles. I hope that these personages will gain a better understand of the Lao situation so that mutual understanding between our two nations can be promoted. We witnessed the signing of an agreement between the two central banks on the payment issue, an agreement which is considered an important document serving as a basis for the promotion and expansion of the friendly relations and the exchange of goods and trade between our two countries. Our Malaysian companies and businessmen, being confident in the fine line and policy of the Lao Government, intend to invest and run businesses in Laos. We—Malaysia and Laos—have the same intention of promoting and expanding relations and cooperation with each other. As for Malaysia, we stick firmly to the policy of promoting and expanding south-south cooperation. We maintain that the building of a prosperous and civilized Laos will result in building a prosperous and developed Southeast Asia region, and that with a developed Southeast Asia, stability can be maintained in the region. Our two countries maintain similar tasks and responsibilities, namely, the promotion and establishment of peace and stability. We have agreed with each other that it is necessary for us to continue to positively carry out our roles and responsibilities in order to [words indistinct] and turn the entire region into a prosperous region so as to guarantee the achievement of stability.

I would like to toast the good health, prosperity, and happiness of H.E. Khamtai Siphandon and his wife; the good health of H.E. the President of the LPDR; and the success of the Lao people.

Mahathir Ends Official Visit, Departs

BK1804135694 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] This morning, His Excellency [H.E.] Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed, prime minister of Malaysia, along with his wife and delegation, left Vientiane for home by a special plane after ending with glorious success, a three-day official, friendly visit to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] at the invitation of H.E. Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the LPDR. A farewell ceremony for Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed, his wife, and delegation was held at the government's guest house at km marker No. 3 in Vientiane at 1030. At the ceremony, H.E. Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed expressed thanks to H.E. Khamtai Siphandon and wife for the warm welcome accorded him and his delegation. H.E. LPDR Prime Minister Khamtai Siphandon also expressed thanks to H.E. Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed and his delegation for the visit and wished them good trip home.

During the visit, H.E. Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed and the delegation paid a courtesy call on H.E. Nouhak Phoumsavan, president of our country, and met and held talks with H.E Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister of the LPDR. They also visited some production establishments in Luang Prabang Province and Vientiane Municipality.

Philippines

ASEAN Rejects Clauses in Trade Pacts With ILO

BK1904062394 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 5 Apr 94 p 2

[Text] Members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have agreed to file a resolution resisting social clauses in trade agreements with the International Labor Organization.

Labor officials of the nations who attended the ASEAN Sub-Committee on Labor Affairs (ASCLA) meeting decided to bring up the matter during the International Labor Conference (ILC) in June.

ASCLA Chairman Bienvenido Laguesma said the social clauses, which are standards or conditions imposed on developing countries before they are granted trade access, are "stringent standards for developing nations." He said "the ASEAN countries' stage of development is not sufficient enough for us to be able to comply with the conditions they have made."

"We also have to consider the cultural differences of each country involved. A practice in our country may be considered child or forced labor by other countries when, in fact, our culture dictates otherwise which only shows that we have a different situation from them," he added.

Last February, the European Parliament issued a resolution which provides for the inclusion of social clauses in international trade agreements designed to combat child and forced labor .

Mr. Laguesma said "the motive is good but the standards are too high. It's one way of keeping developing countries from gaining trade access and competing against developed countries."

He also said the move of ASEAN countries to file the resolution is "important because this could mean that the ILC will be adopting several measures as instrument to resolve the issue.

He added that last year, ASEAN attempted to file a similar resolution. Unfortunately, it was not tackled because there were other more important issues on the agenda.

At the same time, the member countries agreed to consider the possibility of holding dialogues with the International Trade Secretariats (ITS) to diffuse the tension between the parties.

ITS are countries or group of countries that regulate or determine which imports could enter their market.

If standards of the ITS are not met, they can impose trade sanctions, either by reducing the quota or banning the importation of products from the countries that have not complied with the conditions.

Okinawan Governor 'Envies' Subic Bay Conversion

OW1504145094 Tokyo KYODO in English 1427 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Text] Manila, April 15 KYODO—Okinawa Governor Masahide Ota said Friday [15 April] the conversion of the former United States naval base at Subic Bay into a commercial and industrial free port is a good example for Okinawa to follow.

Ota, who is on a six-day visit to the Philippines, told reporters during a visit to Subic that he "envies" its conversion, which followed the U.S. withdrawal of forces from the port in 1992.

Subic Bay was once the largest U.S. overseas naval base.

Ota said he could foresee a bustling commercial and industrial free port in Subic 10 years from now, adding, "I really envy the successful conversion of the Subic naval base into a commercial district."

Subic is about 70 kilometers north of Manila.

The Okinawan archipelago in southern Japan, still plays host to a strong U.S. military presence.

Lt.Gen. Enrile To Become Chief of Staff

Pushes Modernization Program

BK1904072894 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 6 Apr 94 pp 1, 8

[Text] Lt. Gen. Arturo T. Enrile, chief of the Philippine Army and incoming chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), vowed yesterday to give top priority to the 10 year modernization program of the AFP which, he said, is expected to have an expanded and more dynamic role in view of the country's fast improving political, social, and economic situation.

In an interview at the Philippine Army Headquarters at Fort Bonifacio, Makati, Enrile said that in his tour of duty as the next chief of staff, the military organization will assume more relevant roles in economic development, particularly in the field of infrastructure and environmental preservation.

He said that his program "peace offensives" in the Philippine Army is applicable for the entire AFP since it will be the military's contribution to nation building. Enrile, a member of the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) Class '62, was named by President Ramos, also commander-in-chief, as the next AFP head replacing Gen. Lisandro C. Abadia who is scheduled to end his three-year term as AFP chief of staff on 12 April. Abadia who is turning 56 next month, is also a member of PMA Class '62.

As Army chief, Enrile has vigorously pursued the Chief Executive's campaign to protect the country's remaining forests through the involvement of Army Special Units.

The Army chief also revealed plans to redeploy armored, fighting vehicles in forest areas as a deterrent to illegal loggers amidst the decline of communist threat.

However, Enrile said that he will give emphasis on the modernization of the AFP since, he claimed, his predecessors had successfully worked for the unification and professionalization of the military institution.

"Actually, there is a much lesser work load for me now because of the effectiveness of my predecessors. But still, I am ready to make innovations that would keep the AFP as relevant as it is," he said.

Despite giving a list of five candidates for the top AFP post, military sources said Abadia endorsed Enrile to President Ramos because of his professional competence.

Enrile said he is not expecting any "sour graping" from any of the four candidates. "All of us are professionals and experts in the military career," he said.

Enrile was born in Lucena City, Quezon on 20 June 1940. His parents are Felix D. Enrile of Lucena City and Jovita Tiongson of Nueva Ecija.

He is married to Mara Miciano of Metro Manila and is blessed with a 12-year-old daughter Tanya Angela.

Many remember Gen. Enrile as the only Army officer who convinced more than 400 rebel soldiers to "return to barracks" after occupying the high-rise buildings in Makati for seven days during the December 1989 failed coup attempt.

As superintendent of the PMA, Enrile was also responsible for instituting reforms at the country's premier military academy, particularly the eradication of traditional hazing activities.

President Fidel Ramos designated yesterday Maj. Gen. Alfredo Filler as new vice chief of staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) in place of Vice Admiral Mariana Dumancas.

Filler's appointment followed the designation of Gen. Arturo Enrile as incoming AFP chief of staff, vice Chief of Staff Lisandro Abadia who is retiring on 12 April.

Malacanang [presidential office] said Dumancas had earlier requested the president to be allowed to go on terminal leave effective today prior to his compulsory retirement on 30 October 1994. The president approved his request.

Editorial on Enrile as New Chief

BK1904093894 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 6 Apr 94 p 4

[Editorial: "Enrile A Good Choice"]

[Text] By appointing Lt. Gen. Arturo Enrile over more senior nominees as Armed Forces chief of staff, President Ramos reaffirmed his policy of not appointing any officer to key positions in the uniformed service if they are retiring within six months of their appointment. The policy was earlier upheld when the president reappointed Superintendent Umberto Rodriguez as director-general of the Philippine National Police (PNP).

The new appointment has been generally welcomed by various sectors. It helps that General Enrile is popular and well-liked in the defense and military establishment. This early, it is easy to see that Enrile's appointment will breeze through the Commission on Appointments and public opinion circles, unlike the Rodriguez appointment which has been hounded by controversy since the start not because of the PNP chief's qualifications but of the overall problematic state of the police.

It also helps that General Enrile has more or less been groomed for the post. The new chief of staff was catapulted into national prominence when as superintendent of the Philippine Military Academy, he negotiated the surrender of army mutineers in the 1989 coup attempt against [former President] Corazon C. Aquino. He was a possible successor to Renato de Villa when the latter retired as chief of staff in 1991; Mrs. Aquino, however, chose Lisandro Abadia and named Enrile army chief President Ramos chose General Enrile as the new chief of staff over more senior officers without risking a backlash from the military establishment. Such would have been inconceivable three years ago when the air was charged with recrimination and suspicion over appointments to the military service, a hangover from the martial-law years when the military controlled the political life of the nation. In fact, Mrs. Aquino suffered the indignity of having to justify her choice of Abadia when the deputy chief of staff at that time, Alexander Aguirre, protested that he had been bypassed and charged that the appointment was politically motivated.

It is to the credit of Abadia that he had stayed nonpartisan during his stint, thereby proving Aguirre wrong. During the 1992 synchronized elections, the military under Abadia tried to stay above politics and ensured a democratic and peaceful turnover of power. Minus his unfortunate indiscreet and rather arrogant remarks on how he refused businessmen's offers to lead a coup against Mrs. Aquino before the 1992 election, Abadia was a good chief of staff who was successful in disciplining and professionalizing the Armed Forces. It is hoped that Enrile would continue with Abadia's reforms.

There is another dimension to the Enrile appointment. The naming of another Army man as chief of staff and not, say, Vice Chief of Staff Mariano Dumancas who is a Navy man, shows that despite the dwindling fortunes of the various insurgencies, the military will still play a prominent, though diminishing, role in counterinsurgency. Earlier, the deadline for the PNP to take over the counter-insurgency operations from the military was extended for another two years. It is expected that by 1996, the insurgencies would have abated as to allow the military to turn over the offensive against rebels to the police.

By that time, the military would be able to concentrate fully on its essential role: defending the country against external aggression and other threats to its national security. To speed up the transition, it would do well for Congress to finally pass the bill modernizing the Armed Forces and keeping our defense capability at par with that of our neighbors in the region who have embarked on an alarming arms build-up.

The modernization bill has been held by bureaucratic incompetence; apparently the military and the Executive could only provide ballpark figures on the costs of modernization that are much like those aimless growth and fiscal targets churned out regularly by our economic planners. The senators doubt the veracity of the figures. There is support for the bill in Congress, especially the Senate, but the Armed Forces and the Executive must get their act together.

Thailand

Rockets, Mortar Shells Fired on Cambodian Border

BK1504020194 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Apr 94 p 1

[Text] Aranyaprathet—Thai soldiers yesterday fired eight mortar shells into Cambodia after five rockets believed to have been fired by Cambodian government gunners landed in a Thai village at Ban Saensuk of Tambon Khlong Namsai.

One rocket fell on the house of Samran Ploimali, 30, and the shrapnel slightly injured her daughter, Sirikanya, 12.

Thai gunners at first fired a smoke shell to warn Cambodian troops but Cambodian gunners, stationed at kilometre 4 on Highway No. 5, refused to heed the warning and kept on firing artillery, mortar and rocket-launchers at the Khmer Rouge stronghold at Phnum Malai with stray shells landing in Thailand, according to Thai sources.

Thai gunners then fired eight mortar shells into Cambodia.

It is not known whether the shells caused any casualties among Phnom Penh troops.

Senior Officials Discuss Cambodian Allegations

BK1504135694 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Text] A meeting on Thai-Cambodian border problems was held at the Foreign Ministry today. The attendants were Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri; Interior Minister General Chawalit Yongchaiyut; Gen. Charan Kunlawanit, National Security Council secretary general; Navy Commander Admiral Prachet Siridet; and other officials concerned.

Reporting afterwards, the foreign minister said the meeting discussed problems along the Thai-Cambodian border and retaliatory measures against Cambodia. The Foreign Ministry will today send a letter to Cambodian Prime Ministers Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen regarding the Cambodian allegations about Thai support for the Khmer Rouge. The letter will clarify what has occurred and point out that Thailand is basically complying with the Paris Agreement. It will confirm that Thailand has not supported any particular Cambodian group, as well as not having supplied weapons to the Khmer Rouge.

The foreign minister said Thailand will not accept further Cambodian refugees. The Foreign Ministry will encourage Cambodia to promptly establish within one year a safety zone for refugees fleeing the fighting. The foreign minister said the Thai military will take drastic action to deal with shelling of Thai territory by the Khmer Rouge or Cambodian Government forces.

Army Chief Discusses Cambodian Border 'Warning'

BK1704114194 Bangkok THE SUNDAY NATION in English 17 Apr 94 p A2

[Text] Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit was guarded yesterday in his reaction to Phnom Penh's warning it would attack Khmer Rouge tanks found on Thai soil, saying only that the military was responsible for safety and security along the border.

Wimon refused to make any comment about exactly how the Army would respond to any possible encroachment on Thai territory by Phnom Penh forces.

He repeated Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri's comment on Friday that the allegations by Cambodian leaders that the Khmer Rouge was operating from Thai soil were groundless.

Cambodian Co-Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh last week alleged Khmer Rouge tanks had fired from inside Thailand at Phnom Penh government forces in Pailin.

On Thursday the Prince warned that his forces might attack the Khmer Rouge tanks even if they were on Thai territory and that he was losing patience over what he called Thailand's continued failure to crack down on Khmer Rouge forces.

"If you say they are not on your territory, please don't make any protest if we violate your territory. We don't intend to do that," he reportedly said.

The Khmer Rouge are universally held responsible for the deaths of more than one million Cambodians during the Pol Pot reign of terror from 1974 to 1979.

Wimon on Friday met Foreign Minister Prasong, Interior Minister Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, Defence Minister Wichit Sukmak and senior military officials to discuss the charges.

Meanwhile, Army spokesman Col Phalangkun Klahan insisted that Thailand has never allowed any foreign troops onto its territory and that Prince Norodom's allegation was unfounded and unfair to Thailand.

He also said the Army has not been involved in Cambodia's internal affairs or provided assistance to the Maoist faction since the signing of the Paris Peace Accord in August 1991.

"Cambodia should think of its relationship with Thailand before making accusations of this sort," he said.

Phalangkun also said the Army would give an abrupt and harsh response if Cambodian forces are found on Thai soil.

Cambodian Leaders Warned About Unfounded Charges

BK1804122694 Bangkok KRUNGTHEP THURAKIT in Thai 18 Apr 94 p 2

[Editorial: "Stop Making Groundless Accusations To Drive a Wedge between Thailand and Cambodia"]

[Text] The abrupt cancellation, on 16 April, of a planned visit to Thailand by Cambodia's second prime minister, Hun Sen, clearly reflected that the Cambodian leaders really believe, as they charged earlier, that Thailand has been helping Khmer Rouge forces in operations close to the Thai border by providing them with supplies and logistics. They have dismissed Thailand's repeated statement that its policy is that of supporting the elected Cambodian Government.

Although we do not think the Cambodian leaders' charge that Thailand, as a "state," supported the Khmer Rouge troops has any factual basis, we cannot deny that support has existed at the border. Yet, this has been rather mutual help at the people's level within the normal range of contacts for border trade and visits—these contacts exist at other points along Thailand's borders.

We think that the attitude adopted by the Cambodian leaders does not reflect realities. If this continues, it will only worsen relations and aggravate tension between the two countries. This is not good for either side, especially Cambodia, which is at the stage of national reconstruction. Besides, we think that the attitude adopted by the Cambodian leaders could spoil the talks between the Cambodian leaders and the Thai Army commander, who is scheduled to visit Cambodia within a few days.

The Thai Army is the prime target in the charge made by the Cambodian leaders—a spokesman of the Cambodian Information Ministry said that there are bad elements in the Thai Army who have supported the Khmer Rouge guerrillas in violation of the Thai Government's policy of support for the Cambodian Government. The charge was serious; and it was directed against the Thai Armed Forces when Cambodian leaders failed to locate the sources of fresh munitions and cannon rounds the Khmer Rouge have in their possession.

During his visit to Cambodia, the Army chief will have to answer those charges, and he might well have to put up with a few proposals from the Cambodian Government—they can be about nothing other than Thailand's support for Cambodian guerrillas, regardless of the fact that the Thai military has completely ceased giving support to the Khmer Rouge since the peace agreement was signed in Paris by the four Cambodian factions.

On behalf of the Thai people, we call on the Cambodian Government to stop making groundless accusations. Not only will they bring "a chill" in relations between Thailand and Cambodia, the accusations will seriously affect national reconstruction in Cambodia, badly torn by civil strife. We hope that the story of a farmer and the viper, which referred to Cambodian leaders in the past, will not have to be retold.

Army Chief on Cambodia's 'Insincere' Friendship

BK1904024494 Bangkok THE NATION in English 19 Apr 94 pp A1, A3

[Text] ARMY Chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit yesterday issued a veiled threat to Cambodian leaders, warning them that Thailand cannot maintain a good relationship with an "insincere friend", referring to repeated complaints from Phnom Penh that Thailand is helping Khmer Rouge leaders escape justice.

"Between human beings, true friendship is sacred. So it is with international relations. Without sincerity, there can be no friendship," Gen Wimon said in his strongest denials of Thai aid to the Khmer Rouge in a week.

Gen Wimon also warned that without Thailand as "a true friend", Cambodia would be in trouble. "I doubt whether the friendship offered (to Cambodia) by others is as genuine as ours," Wimon said.

Likening the Cambodia of the recent past to "a person without clothing, food, or shelter", Gen Wimon said Thailand has demonstrated its commitment to its neighbour repeatedly with various forms of assistance.

"We have given them help despite problems of our own. Now that things have improved, the Cambodians have forgotten all we have done for them," he said.

Wimon interspersed his accusations of ingratitude with hinted allegations that enemies of Thailand had bribed Cambodian leaders to make these accusations.

Reiterating Thailand's anti-Khmer Rouge stance, Gen Wimon said the army is losing its patience and will not tolerate further accusations.

Cambodian First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut, both of whom maintained a good relationship with the Thai military during their struggle against the Vietnamese-backed former government in Phnom Penh, have stepped up their allegations over the last week.

Last Wednesday Ranariddh went so far as to say he would order Cambodian troops to fire on any Khmer Rouge tanks observed on Thai soil.

Armed Forces' spokesman Lt Gen Anuson Kritsanaserani, meanwhile, confirmed that the cancellation of Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Woranat Aphichari's trip to Cambodia was a protest over the Cambodian accusations.

The decision came on Friday, one day after the Cambodian Foreign Ministry informed its Thai counterpart of the postponement of Cambodian Second Prime Minister Hun Sen's trip to Thailand, following a closed-door session which included members of the Foreign Ministry and the armed forces.

Gen Anuson does not believe, however, that the cancellations will necessarily worsen the situation.

The Thai Foreign Ministry also lodged a formal protest when Thai Ambassador to Cambodia Sakthip Krairoek paid a courtesy call on Cambodian Foreign Minister Prince Norodom Sirivut yesterday.

"Now we wait and see," said Gen Anuson.

Anuson denied reports that Khmer Rouge leaders are hiding in the Phnom Dong-Rak mountain range, which straddles the Thai-Cambodian border, saying the immigration controls in the area are very strict.

The spokesman suspects the spill-over of Cambodian shelling onto Thai soil was deliberate and said it could have been avoided if the Cambodian military commanders were serious about it.

He also believes the accusations against Thailand were in retaliation for the unwanted repatriation of Cambodians believed to be the families of Khmer Rouge guerrillas fleeing the town of Pailin, a former Khmer Rouge stronghold, which fell to government troops on March 19.

Cambodia Issue Explanation to ASEAN Planned

BK1904023394 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 19 Apr 94 p 10

[Text] THAILAND will explain the recent border conflicts with Cambodia to other members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations next week, Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri said yesterday.

ASEAN senior officials will gather in Phatthaya for a three-day meeting starting on Monday to prepare agendas for the foreign ministers' meeting and the ASEAN Regional Forum in Bangkok in July.

The Foreign Ministry would use the opportunity to sound out "opinions of other ASEAN countries" about the sour relations, said Sqn Ldr Prasong while participating in the Ministry's 119th anniversary celebrations.

He denied that the scrapped visit to Cambodia by Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Woranat Aphichari was a protest against the Phnom Penh government.

ACM Woranat was possibly not ready for talks with Cambodian officials, he said.

ACM Woranat's plan was to hold discussions on border conflicts with high-ranking officials in Phnom Penh.

Thailand has protested against Cambodian accusations that Thailand is supporting the Khmer Rouge.

A letter will be handed to the Cambodian foreign ministry.

Sqn Ldr Prasong said he did not expect to hear any response to the move which was aimed at explaining the truth as well as explaining Thailand's generosity to Cambodia.

He said Prime Minister Chuan Likphai had no time, because of a tight schedule, to host Cambodian co-premier Hun Sen's planned visit to Bangkok.

The premier was scheduled to visit Malaysia on Thursday.

Sqn Ldr Prasong leaves for Rangoon today for an official visit as chairman of the ASEAN standing committee.

The visit is an attempt to invite Burma to be a guest at the ASEAN foreign ministerial meeting to create mutual understanding and bring Burma into the outside world under ASEAN's "constructive engagement" policy.

Meanwhile, the Cambodian government yesterday closed the Poipet-Klong Luek border pass in Aranyaprathet.

The shutdown came more than a week after the Thai military closed this important border point in retaliation for cross-border shelling by Khmer forces.

A Cambodian official based in Poipet said yesterday the Thai action was unjustified and unreasonable.

He admitted that closing the border would have a detrimental effect on the Cambodian economy and tourism, especially at the usually busy Poipet market which is now deserted.

All consumer goods and services that have to be imported from the Thai side are becoming scarce and prices are soaring, said the official, noting that a big chunk of ice which fetched only 60 baht in Poipet before the closure of the border was now priced at 280 baht.

Prasong Comments on Cambodia Visits Cancellation

BK1804145594 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 9 in Thai 1200 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Foreign Minister Squadron Leader Prasong Sunsiri said that Supreme Commander Air Chief Marshal Woranat Aphichari had postponed his visit to Cambodia because the military leader was not ready to pay the visit now. Regarding the postponement of the visit to Thailand by Cambodian Second Prime Minister Hun Sen to discuss border problems, Prasong said that we are working with Phnom Penh authorities on a new schedule because of the Thai prime minister's planned visit abroad.

[Begin Prasong recording] We want Cambodia to understand our good intentions. Thailand wants to see the Cambodian problem settled through national reconciliation. We do not want to see conflicts or fighting. Thailand is willing to provide assistance to help bring in national reconciliation in Cambodia. We do not have a policy of supporting the Khmer Rouge or any particular faction. Our policy is to help them settle their problems in line with the Paris Peace Agreement. Other countries should refrain from acting in a way which can aggravate the conflict. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Supreme Command Information Department Director Lieutenant General Anuson Kritsanaserani said that the Supreme Commander had indefinitely postponed his visit to Cambodia because senior Cambodian leaders had accused Thailand of supporting the Khmer Rouge. Thailand has a policy of not supporting any Khmer faction, and has persistently adhered to that policy. On 12 April when an armed force crossed into Pong Nam Ron District of Chanthaburi Province, the Thai side disarmed and pushed them back. Lt. Gen. Anuson believes that the cancellation of the supreme commander's visit to Cambodia and the cancellation of Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen's visit to Thailand will not cause military tensions.

'Aggressive' Posture Toward Cambodia Criticized

BK1904094494 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 19 Apr 94 p 3

[Editorial: "Soldiers Must Be Tolerant"]

[Text] Although Thailand played a significant part along with the international community in stopping the civil war and bringing about the election in Cambodia, it appears that it has not received due credit from certain leaders in the Cambodian Government. Thailand has even been discredited on several occasions.

The sole issue the Cambodians have repeatedly used to discredit Thailand results from distrust of Thailand out of fear that the Thai military might still aid the Khmer Rouge due to interests arising from various activities along the border. This issue has frustrated Thai military leaders for some time.

The issue came to a boiling point when certain Cambodian Government leaders in order to discredit Thailand brought out pictures taken long ago of Thai military officers with Khmer Rouge leaders. The military leaders appealed to the government to voice an objection and take immediate retaliatory measures.

This is the first time that Thai military leaders have displayed their anger, and it is understandable. However, the vehement display of their feelings could have international ramifications, because it is tantamount to an unwritten declaration of Thailand's readiness to take military action.

Political ruses are engaged in all the time. They should be countered politically, not by pounding the table. Therefore, although we sympathize with the Thai military over the unfair accusations, we appeal for calm so that we can make a proper analysis of the game the Cambodians are playing and its intended objective.

We do not believe that certain Cambodian Government leaders are unaware of the change in Thailand's border policy. Trading activities with the Khmer Rouge by minor businessmen have continued to some extent. But why use them to discredit Thailand? By saying that the Thai military and government have two separate identities, we think the Cambodian leaders are giving themselves room for dialogue.

In international politics, an aggressive stance is taken up by one side when it is confident that it can cause the other side to retreat or when it is far superior in power. This stand is taken only as a last resort. We wish every side concerned to reconsider whether it is now time to display such a stance.

Vietnam

Deputy Minister, Delegation Visit Iran

BK1804142194 Hanoi VNA in English 1357 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Hanoi VNA April 18.—A delegation of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs led by Deputy Minister Nguyen Dy Nien has paid a visit to the Islamic Republic of Iran.

While in Iran, the delegation was received by Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, held by Deputy Minister (Mahdi Mostafavi). [sentence as received] The two sides exchanged views on orientation and measures to promote the cooperative relations between the two countries, the two ministries and on international matters of mutual concern. They noted with pleasure at the increasing consolidation and development of the two countries. The Iranian side highly valued Vietnam's renovation process and expressed their wish to contribute to the economic development in Vietnam.

Deputy Foreign Minister Nguyen Dy Nien also met with leading officials of the Ministries of Trade, Oil and Gas, Light Industry, and Construction of Iran, the two sides discussed the orientation of cooperation development in the above said fields and shared the views that the two countries are capable to further develop their economic cooperation to higher level.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Continues Visit

Holds News Conference

BK1804092394 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 15 Apr 94

[Report by Correspondent Dinh Khai on the news conference given by Russian Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Yarov in Hanoi on 15 April]

[Summary] Russian Prime Minister Yuriy Yarov, chairman of the Russian-Vietnamese Intergovernmental Committee for Economic, Trade, and Science and Technology Cooperation, was in Vietnam to attend the third working session of the committee. To conclude the working visit, Mr. Yarov held a news conference.

At the news conference, Mr. Yarov reported on the results of the third session of the intergovernmental committee and the visit of the delegation to the Hoa Binh Hydroelectricity Plant. He revealed that Russia will continue its cooperation with Vietnam in power projects; in the joint venture in oil exploitation; in upgrading factories, including the Lao Cai Apatite Factory; and in post and telegraphic services. The Russian and Vietnamese sides both agreed to set up working groups to speed up cooperation.

He also revealed that "the next working session of the intergovernmental committee will be held in the first quarter of 1995 in Moscow, and he hoped that by then a Vietnamese electronic assembly factory would have been set up in Moscow."

Mr. Graskov, vice chairman of the intergovernmental committee, talked about "certain difficulties in receiving items of merchandise that Vietnam uses to pay for its debts to the Russian Federation. We want the goods to be in greater quantity compared with the existing ones, more diversified, and of better quality with more competitive prices."

He also said the "Russian side has created conditions for Vietnamese goods to get into the Russian market, and hence we expect similar action from the Vietnamese side, primarily to create conditions for Russian machinery and equipment to access the Vietnamese market."

Intergovernmental Commission Meets

BK1804133494 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 17 Apr 94

[Text] In furtherance of an agreement between the governments of Vietnam and the Russian Federation, the Vietnam-Russia Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Trade, and Scientific-Technological Cooperation convened its third meeting in Hanoi from 12-15 April. Deputy Prime Minister Tran Duc Luong, chairman of the Vietnam's Sub-Commission for Economic, Trade, and Scientific- Technological Cooperation and head of the Vietnamese Government delegation, presided over the meeting. Russian Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Yarov, chairman of the Russian Federation's Sub-Commission for Economic, Trade, and Scientific-Technological Cooperation, headed the Russian Government delegation. Also attending the meeting were leading officials of a number of ministries and sectors as well as representatives of Vietnamese and Russian local administrations.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Yarov and members of the Russian Government delegation paid a floral tribute to President Ho Chi Minh at his mausoleum and visited his residence and office. They were also accorded a warm reception by General Secretary Do Muoi and Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet thanked Prime Minister Chernomyrdin and accepted his invitation to visit the Russian Federation this year.

The Vietnamese leaders warmly welcomed the Russian Government economic delegation's working visit to Vietnam. They highly valued the results that both countries have recorded over the past years in the framework of their bilateral cooperation program, especially in the domains of energy and oil and gas. They reiterated Vietnam's constant efforts to consolidate and promote the traditional friendship and cooperation with the Russian Federation based on the principle of equality and mutual benefit.

The Russian Government delegation attended the inauguration of the eighth, and also the last, group of generators of the Hoa Binh hydroelectric power plant. Now that the last group of generators is commissioned, the plant can operate in full capacity.

At the meeting, the two sides studied practical issues relating to the implementation of agreements on economic, trade, and scientific-technological cooperation for the 1993-94 period. The two sides maintained that the implementation of the agreements reached at the second meeting in May 1993 has led to practical results and contributed to promoting the economic, trade, and scientific-technological cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides exchanged views on measures to resolve existing problems and on ways to further enhance the efficiency of cooperation in energy, oil, and gas development; agro-industrial joint ventures; and exchanges of goods. Both sides agreed on the need to make continued efforts to renovate the mechanisms to create favorable conditions for establishing direct contacts between sectors and localities in the two countries.

The two sides signed the minute of the third meeting and the agreements on post and telegraph cooperation and on the preparatory work for the signing of the agreements on investment promotion and protection and on agro-industrial joint ventures, and a number of other agreements.

The Russian Government economic delegation toured a number of economic and cultural facilities. It also met and exchanged views with Vietnamese businessmen. Leading officials of a number of Vietnamese and Russian ministries, sectors, and localities also met and exchanged views on a number of practical issues relating to bilateral cooperation. The two sides agreed that the fourth meeting of the Intergovernmental Commission would take place in Moscow in the first quarter of 1995. The meeting took place in an atmosphere of friendship, frankness, and mutual understanding. The Russian delegation visited a number of southern provinces from 16 to 17 April.

Discusses Bilateral Cooperation

BK1904085394 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] Russian Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Yarov is currently in Vietnam to attend the third session of the Russia-Vietnam Intergovernmental Commission for Economic, Trade, Scientific, and Technological Cooperation.

Mr. Yarov, in an interview with Radio Voice of Vietnam, spoke of the results of this session.

[Begin Yarov recording, in Russian fading into English translation] It marks a new step in the comprehensive cooperation between Russia and Vietnam. The conference decided to continue the cooperation between the two countries, especially in energy and oil and gas joint ventures. It also considered the renovation of some enterprises. The two sides agreed to cooperate in building industrial and agricultural sectors and fishery. The two countries also signed an agreement on cooperation in postal and communications fields. [end recording]

Mr. Yarov spoke of the cooperative relations between Vietnam and Russia in the present situation. He said: What Russia has done in Vietnam, it does not want to shift to other countries. We plan to consolidate and develop the relations between the two countries. Now Russia will continue to cooperate with Vietnam as the former Soviet Union did in the past, because old friends are always better than new ones.

During his visit, the deputy prime minister of Russia also attended the inauguration of the eighth generator unit of the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Power Plant. The Voice of Vietnam asked for his comments and whether Russia plans to cooperate with Vietnam to build other projects on such big scale. He said:

[Begin Yarov recording, in Russian fading into English translation] The Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Power Project is a combination of the joint effort of Vietnamese workers and Russian experts. I would like to congratulate Vietnam for building this project through its own effort. It proves that Vietnam is able to do other bigger projects. The Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Project is the symbol of the close relations between Vietnam and Russia. It makes relations between Vietnam and Russia as well as other countries in the Commonwealth of Independent States become closer and closer. In future, Russia may install two other generator units at the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Power Plant, and two other generator units at the Pha Lai Thermal Electric Power Plant. When Russia is [word indistinct] from its crisis, and it is certainly getting out of the crisis, we will have more joint ventures and investment in Vietnam. [end recording]

Mr. Yarov then gave his impression about Vietnam and its people. He said: The Vietnamese people are hard-working and hospitable. During my working visit to Vietnam, the Vietnamese Government has created favorable conditions for us, especially during my visit and in our presence at the inauguration of the eighth generator unit of the Hoa Binh Hydroelectric Power Plant. The weather in Vietnam is very beautiful.

Visit of Military Delegation in China Reported

BK1504142594 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 14 Apr 94

[Text] According to the correspondent of VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY in China, at the invitation of the Senior Lieutenant General Zhang Wannian, chief of general staff of the China People's Liberation Army, Senior Lieutenant General Dao Dinh Luyen, member of the Central Committee of Communist Party of Vietnam and deputy minister of National Defense and chief of general staff of the Vietnam People's Army led a high-ranking military delegation that arrived in Beijing on 9 April for an official visit to China.

On the morning of 10 April, after the welcome ceremony, which was held in front of the Military Museum, our delegation held a conference with the Chinese high-ranking military delegation headed by Senior Lieutenant General Zhang Wannian.

The two sides informed each other the situation of economic activities of the two armies, discussed and agreed on the continuation of the consolidation and promotion of the traditional and friendly relations between the two peoples and armies.

In the afternoon the same day, Comrade Liu Huaqing, standing member of the Communist Party of China's [CPC] Central Committee Political Bureau and vice chairman of the CPC Central Military Commission warmly received the delegation.

Quang Ninh Province Opens Border Gate With PRC

BK1804141794 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 18 Apr 94

[Text] A ceremony has been held in Quang Ninh Province on the opening of the border gate between Vietnam and China. The Bac Luong bridge, 135 meters long, links the Vietnamese district of Mong Cai with Tunhung [as heard] Province in China. The bridge was built by both sides in 1992.

People from both Vietnam and China have been waiting for the opening of the border gate and the construction of Bac Luong bridge. After the ceremony, Vietnamese and Chinese peoples paid visit to each other in a friendly, peaceful, and cooperative atmosphere.

President Issues New Decrees at News Conference

BK1804091594 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 16 Apr 94

[Text] Authorized by State President Le Duc Anh, the presidential office held a news conference this afternoon [16 April] to introduce the two new decrees which were passed by the National Assembly Standing Committee.

Comrade Nguyen Viet Dung, head of the presidential office, chaired the news conference. Comrade Pham Duc Van, deputy director general of the Revenue General Department, introduced the contents of the decree on the amended tax for families utilizing agricultural land that exceeds the limited acreage. Comrade Nguyen Ngoc Hien, deputy justice minister, introduced the contents of the decree on the proceedings of economic court cases.

The text of these two decrees will be given out through the public media in the near future.

Further on Hanoi Midterm Congress Resolution

Resolution, Part VIII

BK1604141294 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 22 Mar 94 p 2

[Eighth installment of "basic contents" of Hanoi 20-25 January Midterm Party National Conference resolution]

[Text] At present, our party still upholds its tradition of unity, a very important factor for our party's strength in leading the public to overcome difficulties and obtain very important achievements in the renovation undertaking. However, we must always highly rate the duty of strengthening party unity because although, generally, out party is united, some party organs and party committees are facing a lack of unity—serious in some places; some party cadres and party members do not strictly observe the principle of democratic centralism; and hostile forces are finding ways of interfering with our internal affairs, degrading our cadres' political and moral quality, and dividing us in line with the implementation of their "peaceful evolution" conspiracy.

In order to strengthen internal unity, we must perform many tasks. Party committees must outline appropriate measures suitable for their practical conditions. But there is a common point that all party organs, cadres, and members must take heed of: this is the implementation of the party principles on organization and activity, beginning with the principle of democratic centralism and the principle of collective leadership and individual responsibility. These very principles, on one hand, help to develop the party's intellectual ability so that it can reduce mistakes and shortcomings in its decision and ensure the party's stable and dynamic management. On the other hand, they make sure that our party is a united bloc and a strong organization.

It is necessary to stress that these principles do not destroy democracy. The party statures clearly state: In organizing and in discussing all issues, every party member is allowed to fully express his view. However, when an issue has been decided upon by the majority, a person with a view which is in the minority can retain his view, but he must conform with the decision of the majority.

Together with the implementation of these principles, the political report clearly points out that party cadres and party members must inculcate in themselves a revolutionary morality and a healthy lifestyle and fight against waste, corruption, illegal business practices, individualism, indiscipline, authoritarianism, parochialism, and clannishness, because these evils will lead to disunity.

c. The national block must be broadened, and the close relationship between the party and public must be consolidated. Uncle Ho's thought must be promulgated to broadly unite the Vietnamese people in supporting the renovation cause for national independence and in striving to extricate ourselves from poverty and backwardness in order to surge forward toward the goal of a prosperous population, a strong nation, and a just and civilized society.

We must consider the national interest as our common goal. At the same time, we accept different viewpoints as long as they do not run counter to the national interest. We should eliminate obsessions and hatred and look forward to the future. The ideology of great unity must be manifested in all state guidance, policies, and laws.

Is national unity a strategic policy?

National unity is a fundamental policy of our party and state. The ideology of great unity must be manifested in all state guidance, policies, and laws and in all areas of politics, economy, society, security, national defense, and foreign affairs to meet the legitimate interest and aspiration of people from all walks of life; link benefit with responsibility and individual interest with citizenship obligation; respect national interest; and create favorable conditions and an environment to completely liberate the power of production and encourage all people and economic sectors to increase production, improve business, enrich themselves legally, practice thrift for national construction and protection, and continuously improve the people's material and cultural life. At the same time, it encourages all people to satisfactorily implement social welfare policies by repaying debts to people who have rendered meritorious service to the nation, to participate in public work and charity and humanitarian activities, and to help each another eliminate starvation, reduce poverty, and develop the tradition of kindness and gratitude of our ancestors.

We must broaden the national unity in diversified forms. We must organize and develop more new activity forms from low to higher levels and create different forms suitable to different walks of life. We must develop the active role of exemplary persons in all social classes, levels of society, ethnic communities, and religions. We must direct our activity to villages, subwards, and households. And we must consolidate the alliance between the worker and the peasant and intellectuals, making it a foundation for national unity.

d. We have to reform the cadre-related work. First, we must renew the concepts and methods of our cadre-related work in assessing, selecting, employing, and deploying cadres, especially key cadres. Gifted people must be trained, encouraged, and employed. We have to create favorable conditions for sound people—both inside and outside the party and inside and outside the country—to contribute their best efforts for the nation. We have to rejuvenate the contingent of cadres and promote elderly cadres with sound knowledge, experience, political stance, and health. Woman and ethnic cadres must be given special attention. And we must fight narrow-mindedness, parochialism, prejudice, and discrimination.

Resolution, Part IX

BK1604144794 Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 23 Mar 94 p 2

[Last installment of "basic contents" of Hanoi 20-25 January Midterm Party National Conference resolution]

[Text] What are the bases for evaluation, selection, and deployment of leading cadres?

The political report clearly stipulates: "The evaluation, selection, and deployment of leading cadres at all levels should be based on the fundamental criteria determined by the resolution of the Party Central Committee Third Plenum:

—A steadfast political standpoint, determination to follow the socialist path, and determination to bring the renovation undertaking of the country to victory.
—Sound knowledge and the ability to participate in a collective decision making process, as well as the ability to organize and implement any assigned tasks efficiently.
—Possession of revolutionary morality; being diligent, thrifty, just, fair, objective, and unbiased; and having a determination to protect the lines and policies of the party.
—Being discipline oriented and protective of the unity in the party.
—Being close with people and trusted by them.

Among these criteria, special attention should be paid to political acumen; dedication to the aims and ideals of the party; commitment to lead a moral, healthy, and clean life; and non- involvement in corruption. Ability is very important, but the above criteria should also be considered carefully. This is because the renovation undertaking carried out by our party is bringing about many advantages as well as many dangers and difficulties. Leading cadres will have to confront countless ordeals, and if they, being core leaders, falter and show a lack of determination and political acumen, then it is very likely that they will head in the wrong direction. Working in a market-based economy where leading cadres are empowered with vast responsibility for managing public properties, and in an environment where various forces would love to buy those leaders with their money, if the leading cadres let themselves be spoiled by money and become committed to corruption activities, then the state will lose not only its money and its cadres, but also the trust of the people. We definitely should not inject into the leading organs of the party those who are politically and morally degenerate.

Cadre work must be democratized. The evaluation of cadre should be done by the managing party committee and other relevant organs as stipulated, and it should be carried out in orderly, democratic, proper, and just ways. Every cadre has the right to know and answer to the evaluation by the party committee and the leader of that individual cadre.

The political report also highly values the fostering and training of talents, which are considered precious assets of the country. To bring the country to prosperity and powerfulness, we should have many talented people in all fields: outstanding politicians, excellent entrepreneurs, and talented scientists, technicians, culturalists, and so forth. Favorable conditions should be created so that all people with sound character and ability, both inside the party and outsiders, both living domestically and overseas, can have a chance to contribute their utmost to the country.

The training and retraining of cadres should be done according to plan. The training contents must be specific for each task and for the requirements of each position concerned. Renovation must be carried out in both teaching and studying methods, while adequate funds must be provided for the training.

All party organizations will reorganize and reevaluate the existing contingent of cadres. Based on this evaluation, they will make plans for party member work from now until the year 2000. This will correspond to the requirements for the quantity, quality, and structure of cadres. This is our major but difficult task that requires our best efforts to fulfill. The party central committee will give out directives on this task, but each sector, each locality should be a striking force in the implementation process.

D. Are Party Members Allowed To Engage in Private Capitalist Economic Activities?

The party by-laws stipulate that a party member "must be exemplary in labor, combat, and study; and lead a healthy, clean, and non-exploiting life." The Party Construction Report of the Seventh Party Congress also confirmed: "Party members who are currently employed as workers and employees, in addition to the fulfillment of their assigned tasks, are encouraged to develop family economic activities. Party members can be shareholders of companies, state or collective enterprises. Party members who are not employed directly in organs of the party, state, or mass organizations, but directly involved in labor (manual labor, technical labor, or management labor), are allowed to organize a collective economic establishment (production group, cooperative, and so forth), to tender for bidding, and to lease land or other property of the state and other collective organizations. They are also allowed to do business as individual, small proprietors. Party members are not allowed to be private economic capitalists." The political report reaffirms this and all members should strictly abide by it.

Regarding party members who are presently owners of private capitalist economic establishments, the relevant party organizations need to handle them on an individual case basis. They can be helped to transform to enterprises, share-holding enterprises with shares of the laboring partners or the state, or to other forms of collective economic establishment, in order to motivate the capital and entrepreneurial skills of party members on one hand, and to ensure the class characteristic of our party on the other.